

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 6th March 1950.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort. St. George, at eleven of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU), in the Chair.

I.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ The Chairman has received the following message :—

‘ It is from His Excellency the Governor and it is as follows :—

“ I have received with great satisfaction your resolution of thanks for the address with which I opened the present session of the Legislature ”. ’ ”

II.—COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIRMAN.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ I shall now read the communication from the Chairman—

‘ Dear hon. Members of the Council,

“ It grieves me very much to tell you that I am unable to be at the post of duty to-day. The mind is willing, nay anxious, but the body refuses to allow me to be with you on this important occasion which comes, but once in a year. It is, no doubt, true that the mind is all-powerful and can overcome all physical infirmities, but such power is beyond the reach of the run of ordinary mortals. I have, therefore, very reluctantly to bow to the limitations of the frail physical body. I hope the House will pardon me for this. God willing, I hope to be with you, at least on the last day of the discussion.

“ I hasten to express my deep gratitude to all the Hon. Ministers and the hon. Members who were kind enough to call or write to me and give me, so generously, their sympathy and affection.” ’ ”

III.—SWEARING-IN OF A MEMBER.

Sri D. Manjappa Hegde was sworn in by the Hon. Chairman at his residence.

IV.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Appointment of Professor of Psychology in the Presidency College.

* 6 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Dr. B. Kuppuswami Nayudu has been appointed as Professor of Psychology in the Presidency College, Madras, on contract for two years;

(b) whether he was an Assistant Professor of H.H. Maharaja's College, Mysore; and

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(c) whether there is no suitable person in the Madras Educational Subordinate Service to be promoted as Professor of Psychology?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Dr. B. Kuppaswami Nayudu was the Professor and Head of the Department of Psychology in the University of Mysore. He had served as Assistant Professor of Psychology in that University for 19 years.

“(c) There was no qualified officer in the Educational Department who could be appointed to the post.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—“Sir, as regards Dr. B. Kuppaswami Nayudu, has he got any foreign qualifications, and if so, what they are?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“He possesses the M.A. Degree in Psychology in first-class—D.Lit. Degree and all the experience necessary for the new department.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—“Does he possess a foreign degree or only a degree of a local University?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“I am not in a position to say that. He has the M.A. Degree in Psychology.”

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“May I know whether the post was advertised?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“No, Sir.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“May I know whether there is one Dr. R. Nagaraja Sarma, who is an educationist of international reputation and held in high esteem, and he is an M.A. of this University in Psychology?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“I am grateful for the high opinion which the hon. Member has about Mr. Nagaraja Sarma. But unfortunately, he did not possess the qualification which the Madras University has laid down for the post and so the University did not think fit to appoint him.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know what are the qualifications laid down by the University for this post?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“The Madras University insisted that the Professor should have the degree of M.A. or Hons. in Psychology, and so they did not want to appoint a person who has a degree in Philosophy. There is none in the education department qualified for that post.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“May I know who laid that qualification?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“It was laid by the Syndicate of the Madras University.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether this post was advertised and whether applications were invited before this person was chosen? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ When there was no qualified person in the department, the Director of Public Instruction suggested that there is a qualified person in the Mysore University and that this Government might approach that Government to lend his services for two years. We agreed, and that university was approached, and they agreed to lend his services for a period of two years, and so he is on contract for two years.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Are Government aware that Dr. Nagaraja Sarma is an examiner in Psychology in five or six Universities? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I do not know. The University said that he did not possess the qualifications prescribed for the post by the Syndicate.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Was he not the only Indian invitee to the Congress on Psychology held in Copenhagen? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ If my friend gives me the list of invitees to that Congress I shall give him the information who are the other Indians who were invited to that Congress.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—“ May I inquire whether anybody was deputed abroad for higher studies in Psychology, so that he may after his return take up such a post? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I cannot say whether anybody has been deputed for foreign studies. I want notice.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—“ May I know if an advertisement of the post had been made, Government could have secured the services of a better candidate from all over India? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I do not think so; because the qualifications and the experience of the present incumbent are such that the Director of Public Instruction thinks that we cannot get a better person.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Was it a post reserved for promotion or direct recruitment? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ It may be either. It was a new post created according to the scheme of re-organization of the Presidency College.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Was Dr. Nagaraja Sarma, the Professor of Psychology in the Presidency College just before the appointment was made.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ The hon. Member seems to know more about him than myself. My impression is he has retired long ago.”

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DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—“ Since the present incumbent's services are only for a period of two years, will the Government send a member of the department abroad for qualifying himself for this post? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I cannot give any such promise. If we find the present incumbent good, we may continue him if he is willing to continue and if the Mysore Government would help us by sparing his services for some time more.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I inquire whether Government did not consider it would be in public interests if this post had been advertised and applications invited, before they chose this particular candidate? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ The Government have to act on advice in certain matters. The Director of Public Instruction advised us that it was not likely that we could get a better candidate. Further, he said, we could not wait, for by appointing this candidate a lot of time would be saved for the students.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I inquire, Sir, if the Director of Public Instruction had not advised Government to appoint the present incumbent, would they not have advertised for the post and made a better choice, and in doing so would have perhaps declared this present incumbent himself eligible? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ It may be. I cannot say what would have happened if it was advertised. But as a matter of fact we have to take the advice of the Director of Public Instruction with considerable respect, because he is a person experienced in this matter.”

JANAB K. UPPI :—“ May I know what are the disqualifications of the present incumbent? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ There is no present incumbent at all, as the post is a new one. As to the disqualifications of the candidate now appointed, I would refer the hon. Member to put that question to the hon. Gentlemen who put the numerous supplementary questions as they do not like him.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, I strongly protest against the insinuation of the Hon. Minister that it is because we do not like the present incumbent we put so many questions; in fact, most of us may not know him at all. Such a remark is quite unjustified. When we say so many things against the Ministers, does it mean, we do not like them? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I am sorry I have not made myself properly understood. By putting the specific question, whether Dr. Nagaraja Sarma was not a better person, they perhaps thought that Mr. Kuppuswami Nayudu was not qualified for the post. This is what I meant.”

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DR. SYED TAJUDDIN :—“ May I inquire if Government do not think it proper hereafter to advertise and fill such posts? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Certainly if that will conduce to efficiency, they will certainly do it.”

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister is convinced that the Director of Public Instruction knew the candidates available in the field to think that there was no necessity for calling for applications? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ We are perfectly convinced that in this matter the Director of Public Instruction has made the right recommendation.” 11-15 a.m.

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Is this the only instance in which the Director of Public Instruction has made his recommendation or have there been similar instances before? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ If my Friend will give me a list of subjects on which he wants information, I shall try to collect.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Do the Government realize that questions put by Members on the Opposition side are put in the public interest? ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I entirely agree.”

Nutrition Research Laboratory at Coonoor.

* 7 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a Nutrition Research Laboratory at Coonoor long in existence;

(b) whether the Government of Madras exercise any control and supervision over its activities;

(c) whether any contribution is made by the Government of Madras towards its up-keep;

(d) whether there is any proposal to shift the laboratory outside the State; and

(e) whether this Government have been consulted in the matter and if so, whether they have pressed for its retention here?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ (a) Yes, since 1918.

“ (b) No.

“ (c) No. But the buildings known as the Jam Factory Buildings have been placed at the disposal of the Institute since 1930.

“ (d) & (e) In December 1949, certain reports appeared in the Press, suggesting that a proposal was under the contemplation of the Indian Research Fund Association, to shift the Laboratory to a University town with a teaching hospital and other scientific institutions. This Government immediately addressed the Government of India requesting that the

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Provincial Government be consulted before a decision was taken. The Government of India have agreed and have asked this Government to say whether accommodation can be found in Madras City for the Laboratory. Steps are accordingly being taken by this Government to find suitable accommodation for the Laboratory in Madras City."

Teachers working in the State schools in the merged States.

* 8 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been issued in respect of teachers working in the State schools in the merged States of Pudukkottai, Banganapalle and Sandur;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what those orders are; and

(c) whether the general orders applicable to all employees in the service of the States prior to merger are not now applicable to all employees including teachers employed in Government schools?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) & (b) The management of the elementary schools maintained by those States has been taken over by local bodies and the staff have been ordered to be merged in the elementary education staff of the local body concerned according to their qualification, seniority, etc. The teachers in Banganapalle State secondary schools will be absorbed in the service of the District Board, Kurnool, as the management of the schools has already been taken over by the District Board. Orders will be issued in regard to the absorption of the staff in the State Secondary Schools in Pudukkottai and Sandur as soon as a decision is reached on the question of their future management.

“(c) Yes, except that in cases of schools transferred to local bodies, the teachers concerned will be governed by rules of service of local bodies.”

Reduction of issue price of salt in Fish-curing Yards on the West Coast.

* 9 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the West Coast Fisheries Industrial Association has submitted memoranda detailing the grievances of fishermen;

(b) whether the points raised in their memoranda have been examined and orders passed;

(c) what the orders of Government are on the various points; and

(d) whether the question of reducing the issue price of salt in Fish-curing Yards on the West Coast has been considered?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA:—“(a) & (b) Yes.

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- “(c) The only request made in the memorial to this Government was that the issue price of salt in the fish-curing yards on the West Coast should be reduced from Rs. 2-8-0 per maund to Rs. 1-4-0 per maund. The request was not accepted. The Association has also sent another memorial to the Government of India in which they have made various allegations and suggestions. The Government of India called for the remarks of this Government on the Memorial and a reply was sent to the Government of India.
- “(d) Yes. The question is again under the consideration of the Government.”

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

V.—DERAILMENT OF CALCUTTA MAIL.

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I move—

This House deeply sympathises with the victims and the families of the dead in the recent Calcutta Mail disaster and strongly condemns those responsible for the tragedy if it was due to sabotage, and thanks Providence for the miraculous escape of our Chairman. While appreciating the prompt relief arrangements made by the Government, the Railway Authorities, the Police, certain public bodies and persons, this House recommends to the Government to take up with the Government of India adequate measures for relieving the distress caused by this disaster and to take immediate and effective steps to prevent similar occurrences in future—steps for which in the opinion of this House the public should give their closest co-operation and active support.

“ This House is meeting under the shadow of a great tragedy, one of the greatest tragedies that has overtaken this State. Newspapers have published the details. On the night of Friday, the 3rd March 1950, the engine of the Calcutta Mail Train capsized, all except the last bogey went off the rail, six persons died on the spot, ninety-six were injured and out of them six very seriously. The sympathies of not only the Members of this House but of every man in this country are with the victims and the families of the dead. I do not want to commit this House that the disaster was due to sabotage. On the evidence collected by senior railway officials, ordinary people come to the conclusion that it must have been a result of sabotage. If the sabotage was organized by any political party in opposition to the Government, we must very strongly condemn the subversive activities of that party. The Opposition has very severely criticised the Government whenever they interfered with the personal freedom of the individual. As I have often said, the Opposition is behind the Government in the enforcement of law and order which is the primary responsibility of any Government. Is the sabotage aimed at any politician, Minister or other important person in charge of the Government

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of this State or of this country or is it aimed at endangering the lives of innocent persons? There may be travelling in a train businessmen, Government officers and all kinds of people particularly people who are employed in railway service itself. This sabotage is an act of madness. The Government must be supported in every step they take to combat subversive activities of individuals or parties. The other day, I congratulated the Government on keeping order and compared the order in this State with the order maintained in Bengal. The tragedy shows that there are many persons who are active in creating disorder and endangering the lives of innocent persons. Such persons should be condemned very strongly by this House as representing the people. It is not possible for the Government, the Police or the Railway officials alone to combat subversive activities carried on by a section of the people. I think it is the bounden duty of every individual, particularly every public man, to give the Government his active support and co-operation. Such acts will only sound the death-knell of the party. No sane man will tolerate or support a party which calls itself a political party, which does not believe in a democratic structure of society and therefore does not believe in the Constitution which we have framed, and indulges in subversive activities, especially after the great tragedy that occurred on Friday night.

" This House is particularly concerned with our Chairman, who was a victim of the tragedy. We are glad of his miraculous escape and we are thankful to Providence that he, who has served the public for many years and is expected to serve the public for many more years, has been spared. We are very pleased that Sri Kala Venkata Rao, who was also travelling in that train, was not hurt.

" The object of my moving this motion is to condemn strongly the organizers of sabotage particularly derailment of trains. If such activities continue, it will be impossible for innocent people to travel by trains which provide the one means of long-distance travel. Therefore it becomes the imperative duty of all people to co-operate with the Government and see that public opinion is created and every step is taken to avoid a recurrence of similar tragedy, and to maintain the reputation and prestige of our State unimpaired in the eyes of the other States, the Government of India, and the outside world."

SRI P. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Why should not the hon. Member say all these things in the budget discussion which we are going to have? "

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" It is not a point of order. This is a very important matter."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I thought that everybody would welcome and support a motion like this unanimously. There is perhaps some misunderstanding by the hon. Member. I want to pay a very high compliment to those who have helped the injured people. I must pay my compliments to Sri Kala Venkata Rao who was on the

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spot, to Mrs. Ammana Raja, Mrs. Madhava Menon and the Ministers who went to the place soon after the occurrence, and assisted in relief measures. It is said very often that we do not compliment the Police on the difficult task of putting down subversive activities in which they are engaged. I want to say that we are one with the Police and we appreciate their great service. Their lives and the life of the Minister in charge of law and order are in danger. If the subversive activities of people are encouraged and not put down, it will be the beginning of the end of our Constitution. Our Constitution provides for a democratic form of Government. If some party wants to oppose the Government and get into power, the only way for it is to resort to the polling booth and not to subversive activities.

"I hope that everybody will support my motion and that we make a resolution to give our closest co-operation and active support to the Government, the Police and all others engaged in putting down subversive activities."

* JANAB K. UPPI :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, we are, as the 11-30
hon. Leader of the Opposition has said, sitting here to-day under a.m.
the shadow of a great tragedy but at the same time with feelings of great relief. Sir, we have first to offer our grateful thanks to Almighty God for the miraculous escape of our beloved Chairman, and we also offer our hearty congratulations to him on his providential escape. We also send out our deep condolence to the families of the bereaved, who became victims of this unfortunate tragedy. Our sympathies will also go out to those other injured persons who are now suffering.

"Sir, at the same time, we have been repeatedly saying that so far as our Party is concerned, we shall be one with the Government in whatever steps they take in putting down lawlessness in the country. We have also been repeatedly saying that we are one with the Government in suppressing the activities of those who are out to subvert the existing order of things. These kinds of subversive activities have been going on day after day and this is only one more example of the way in which they are trying to oust the Government in power and to establish themselves in the country. May God save us from those people who want to get power into their hands in this manner, to rule over us and to make us their automatons and to treat us as animals! May God help, that such a situation does not at all arise in this country.

"With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The motion is—

'that this House deeply sympathizes with the victims and the families of the dead in the recent Calcutta Mail disaster and strongly condemns those responsible for the tragedy if it was due to sabotage, and thanks Providence for the miraculous escape of our Chairman. While appreciating the prompt relief arrangements made by the Government, the Railway authorities, the Police, certain public bodies and persons, this House recommends to

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the Government to take up with the Government of India adequate measures for relieving the distress caused by this disaster and to take immediate and effective steps to prevent similar occurrences in future—steps for which in the opinion of this House the public should give their closest co-operation and active support’.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, speaking as the Leader of this House and on behalf of this Government, I beg to associate myself with the fine sentiments of sympathy and fellow-feeling expressed by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. This is certainly a ghastly tragedy. This deed on the part of those who designed it, is indeed so cruel and heartless in its results, that there is no use of expressing mere sympathies alone, because this event, which has resulted in the deaths and sufferings of so many innocent men, women and children, owing to the wicked design of a person or group of persons, has cast a shadow of darkness in the minds of the people of this Province and in the minds of the Members of this Legislature. But out of evil cometh good and even so, this tragedy has brought out some redeeming features of the sense of humanity in us. The wonderful relief that was immediately and spontaneously rendered to the unfortunate victims of that accident, by all the people near the scene, proves, in fact the goodwill and the good-nature of our people who responded to the call of these suffering humanity, to do what they could by way of assistance, wholeheartedly and selflessly, speaks volumes of them. The Government of Madras also feel satisfied that their subordinates and their servants had not lagged behind in rendering their part of assistance and service to the victims of this tragedy, which befits them as true servants of the State in the discharge of their public duties. The officers of the Police department, within an hour of this incident, along with the Deputy Inspector-General of Police were at the scene of accident, rendering all possible help and service to the victims, and we should indeed praise them for what they have done in such a short time because it is the Police of the State, and particularly of the Democratic State like ours, that should be prompt and vigilant and act in the manner in which they have acted at the present instance. It is also happy to record, Sir, that a number of our people who could have comfortably taken refuge in their houses, should have rushed up to the scene of accident and rendered such help as was possible and necessary. I cannot but mention, in this connexion, that the Members of the Government in the person of my Hon. Colleagues Mr. Bhaktavatsalam and Mr. Sitarama Reddi, immediately on hearing the news of the disaster rushed to the spot and made enquiries and arrangements for affording necessary relief to the concerned victims. Mrs. Ammanna Raja, our Deputy Speaker of the Assembly, along with Mrs. Madhava Menon, who are always active in anything pertaining to the welfare of women and children and who are always ready to render service to the sick and the suffering, also rushed up to the spot and arranged for the immediate relief and treatment of the sufferers, for which they

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deserve our hearty congratulations and gratitude. It is also indeed fortunate that my hon. Friend, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, who was one of the passengers of the train miraculously escaped, with his usual preparedness for service, ran up to the next station and informed the Railway authorities and the Government about the accident, and stood up on the road stopping every bit of conveyance on the way, demanding their help and aid to render assistance to the victims, which was readily given by them. Such spontaneous feelings of sympathy on the part of every one of those who were present on the scene of the accident and of the people in the area who were prepared to render whatever help they possibly could, really demonstrate the inherent goodness of our people and their readiness to help in the hour of need. Our hearts really go to those unfortunate and innocent victims of the tragedy who have lost their lives and to the members of the bereaved family. There are many people who have received injuries and I do not know how many of them will survive, but they have all been removed to places where they could be well-attended to and well-treated.

“ Sir, it is not my intention to speak about the magnitude or the dastardliness of this crime on the part of those who designed it and the inhumanity they had shown in perpetrating this crime against innocent and peaceful citizens. We have taken charge of the whole situation and I am sure we can render a good account of ourselves and we shall see that such events, as far as it is humanly possible, are prevented in the future. It is indeed strange that such events should happen in this Province of Madras. That we have been threatened with such things during the past few months, goes without saying. But a pre-arranged design of this sort, bringing such deaths and disaster to thousands of innocent people, is something which could not be thought of lightly and I am sure that the Government of Madras and the Government of India will jointly do their best to save our people from such catastrophies and disasters in the future.

“ Sir, I had a personal talk with our Chairman, towards whom we have the highest regard, respect and love and whose services and good intentions are so well known to us. He had, as we know, a miraculous escape, and it is pleasing to learn from him how wonderfully he was attended to in such a strange place and at such an hour, and how his injuries were dressed with up-to-date medicines and how he was given injections, etc., by the people and the doctors who were on the spot, and all these clearly show that the willingness and the goodness of the people to help in times of need are always there. Others who received similar injuries, were also similarly treated and those who could be taken to places where they could get better treatment of their injuries had been taken to such places and I do hope and trust that very soon they will be healed of their injuries and survive this ghastly tragedy. It is really unfortunate that on this opening day of this Legislature, we have to witness a tragedy of such a magnitude and to record our feelings of deep sorrow and concern over it. But, it has given us, as human beings, and as Members of the Legislature to do our little bit of service to the people of this State.”

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THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" The question is—

' that this House deeply sympathizes with the victims and the families of the dead in the recent Calcutta Mail disaster and strongly condemns those who are responsible for the tragedy if it was due to sabotage, and thanks Providence for the miraculous escape of our Chairman. While appreciating the prompt relief arrangements made by the Government, the Railway authorities, the police, certain public bodies and persons, this House recommends to the Government to take up with the Government of India adequate measures for relieving the distress caused by this disaster and to take immediate and effective steps to prevent similar occurrences in future—steps for which in the opinion of this House the public should give their closest co-operation and active support '."

This Resolution was carried *nem con*.

VI.—PROCEDURE FOR INTRODUCING BUDGET UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" On a point of information, Sir, I want to know what procedure is going to be followed by the House with regard to the budget for the year 1950-51, especially in view of the specific provision contained in Article 204 of the New Constitution, laying down the procedure in regard to Appropriation Bills. In that case, Sir, we shall have to discuss the budget twice, because after the budget has been passed in the Legislative Assembly, the Appropriation Bill has to be brought before the Assembly and after it is passed there, it has to come before this House. We shall have to discuss the budget twice according to the procedure prescribed in Article 204 of the Constitution, as we are now governed by the provisions of the Constitution Act.

" Secondly, Sir, from the manner in which the budget has been introduced before this House this year, I surmise that the old procedure is being followed, although a different procedure has been prescribed under the New Constitution regarding Appropriation Bills.

11-45
a.m. " Last year, I drew the attention of the House and of the President to the fact that the presentation of the budget became stale on account of the fact that the same speech was read here. It was agreed by the Leader of the House that the procedure of presenting the budget simultaneously might be adopted following the procedure adopted in the House of Commons, or the procedure that was being adopted in the Central Assembly and also in this House during the previous Congress Cabinet. When we had agreed on this point, I do not know why the budget was presented here only in the afternoon. There is nothing against the presentation of the budget simultaneously in both the Houses under the Constitution. Article 202 of the Constitution says—

* 202. (1) The Governor shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before the House or Houses of the Legislature of the State a statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the State for that year, in this part referred to as the annual financial statement."

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There is therefore ample room for the presentation of the budget simultaneously before both the Houses, and I do not know why this House should be treated in a different manner now also. Also I would like to know whether the Appropriation Bill will come before this House, after it has been passed by the Assembly, and whether we will have an opportunity of discussing it here."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, with regard to the Appropriation Bill, the President has enabled us to follow the old procedure for this year, because the dates for the budget discussion were all fixed by His Excellency the Governor long before 26th January 1950, and therefore we are following the same old procedure. Next year, we will conform to the provisions of the Constitution.

" With regard to the presentation of the budget in the afternoon in the Council, if I can be relieved the trouble of reading it again, I shall certainly be thankful, and if that is the wish of the House, copies of the budget speech can be distributed to this House and the Chairman. But I think there is no provision for a joint sitting of both the Houses for the presentation of the budget. Under the Constitution, only for hearing His Excellency the Governor's address there is provision for a joint sitting. There is no provision for a joint sitting of both the Houses for hearing the Finance Minister's budget speech."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" Simultaneously, I mean."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Finance Minister must sit in one House. (Interruption.) If different persons should present the budget in the two Houses, and if the Leaders of the two Houses should read the budget speech simultaneously, then of course I have no objection."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" That is all I meant."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" That could be arranged."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister says that the budget alone will be discussed. But what about Article 204 in the New Constitution? It is a statutory provision. Has the President the right to ignore it and say that no Appropriation Bill need be brought forward?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" In exercise of the powers conferred by the Temporary and Transitional Provisions, the President has enabled this Government to adopt the old procedure of not presenting any Appropriation Bill."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" I searched for the Transitional Provisions, but could not find any."

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Under the provisions of Article 392 of the Constitution, the President has issued the order. The Article says—

‘ 392 (1) The President may, for the purpose of removing any difficulties, particularly in relation to the transition from the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935, to the provisions of this Constitution, by order direct that this Constitution shall, during such period as may be specified in the order, have effect subject to such adaptations, whether by way of modification, addition or omission, as he may deem to be necessary or expedient.’

The President has issued an order to the effect that the same old procedure may be followed this year also. Further, Article 204 comes in only after the Assembly passes and makes the grants. In the first place the demands have to be passed in the Assembly. The demands passed by the Assembly shall then come here.”

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“ I do not know whether this enabling Article covers such cases. Only when there are any difficulties the President can use his powers. There was ample time between January 26 and now for bringing forward an Appropriation Bill. I cannot agree that there is any insuperable difficulty in regard to this matter.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, I am afraid this discussion is the result of a misapprehension of the provisions of the Constitution, and I do not see why the Finance Minister should explain in an apologetic manner why the procedure in the Constitution is not adopted. Article 202 says that an annual financial statement must be laid before the Houses of the Legislature. Article 202 (2) says—

‘ . . . and shall distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure.’

We must distinguish expenditure on revenue account from other expenditure. The Legislature has no power to touch the expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of each State. Article 203 (1) says—

‘ So much of the estimates as relates to expenditure charged upon the Consolidated Fund of a State shall not be submitted to the vote of the Legislative Assembly . . . ,’

but that expenditure can be discussed. Article 203 (2) says—

‘ So much of the said estimates as relates to other expenditure shall be submitted in the form of demands for grants to the Legislative Assembly, and the Legislative Assembly shall have power to assent, or to refuse to assent, to any demand, or to assent to any demand subject to a reduction of the amount specified therein.’

Article 203 (3) says—

‘ No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the Governor.’

Now, these demands under Article 203 (2) must be assented to or refused by the Legislative Assembly. Article 204 comes only at a subsequent stage. It says—

‘ 204 (1). As soon as may be after the grants under Article 203 have been made by the Assembly, there shall be introduced a Bill to provide for the appropriation out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of all moneys required to meet

(a) the grants so made by the Assembly ; and . . .

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[Dr. V. K. John]

Now we are at the first stage of 'annual financial statement'. It is just the same as in previous years. The rules also are the same under which we are discussing the budget. Then these demands will go to the vote of the Assembly, and the Assembly will grant the demands because the Government have a majority there. The new obligation under the Constitution is that as soon as may be after the grants under Article 203 have been made by the Assembly, there shall be introduced a Bill to provide for the appropriation out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of all moneys required to meet the grants so made by the Assembly. That stage, we have not yet reached, and I do not see any objection to discussing the financial statement. We are following the correct procedure, and we do not need any emergency law at all for this purpose. The Constitution itself provides for this. We have followed that procedure, and we intend to follow that procedure. The stage mentioned in Article 204 is far off. The Assembly has first of all to pass the demands, and then a Bill has to be introduced there. I do not see how any objection could be raised now, and I do not know why the Hon. the Finance Minister should introduce anything here other than what is stated in Articles 202 and 203 of the Constitution."

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—" Sir, I have not raised any objection. I only wanted that the position should be clarified. I wanted to know whether this budget would come before this House again in the shape of an Appropriation Bill, and whether there would be another discussion. I think the Hon. the Finance Minister has very well understood my point though the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition has not understood. The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon also has understood my point, and he has stated that the President, in exercise of the enabling provisions in the Constitution, has exempted this Government from adopting the new procedure mentioned in Article 204. Therefore, my point has been met. I am not able to understand the objection raised by Dr. John to my point seeking clarification."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, may I say a few words in addition to what has been stated by my hon. Friend Dr. John in reply to the hon. Member Mr. Ibrahim? I would here refer to Article 208. It says—

208 (1) A House of the Legislature of a State may make rules for regulating, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, its procedure and the conduct of its business.

(2). Until rules are made under clause (1), the rules of procedure and standing orders in force immediately before the commencement of this Constitution with respect to the Legislature for the corresponding Province shall have effect in relation to the Legislature of the State subject to such modifications and adaptations as may be made therein by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, or the Chairman of the Legislative Council, as the case may be."

After the enactment of this Constitution, rules have been framed under Clause (2) of Article 208, and I have received a copy of the rules recently. On page 24, Chapter XIV, rules are framed with regard to the transaction of financial business which, practically, are the same as before. Days have been allotted for discussion."

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JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“ Rules cannot contravene the provisions of the Constitution.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Four days have been fixed for discussion of the budget. Then, Sir, there is another point raised by the hon. Member Mr. Ibrahim—whether after the Appropriation Bill is passed by the Assembly, it will come before this House. I think it has to come before us though we are powerless and cannot add anything to what has been granted by the Assembly.”

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ It is only a question of information. That question does not arise at this stage. We are now in an earlier Article dealing with the discussion of the budget. The information that is supplied now is sufficient enough to proceed further.”

JANAB K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM :—“ Sir, I would like to know whether the President of the Republic in his order has specifically mentioned, that the Appropriation Bill might not be brought before this House, and, if so, whether that order will be placed before this House so that we may know that no provision of the Constitution is violated.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The dates for the discussion of the budget were fixed by His Excellency the Governor in October 1949, and therefore we could not adopt the provisions of the Constitution. This point was specifically raised before the President of the Republic, and he has agreed that the old procedure might be followed. I shall see that his order is made available to hon. Members.”

VII.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1950-51.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ The hon. Member Sri N. Venkatachalamaji will now speak.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Sir, the first speaker may be from the Opposition side.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I had no intention to be the first speaker to-day. I expected, as usual, my hon. Friend Mr. Bhima Rao to forestall me.

“ Sir, before I deal with the budget proper, I think I will be in order if I refer to some general considerations as this is the only occasion when Members of this House have an opportunity of expressing their views on general matters which affect this State. We have been listening or reading a great deal about the Party squabbles in the Party to which the Treasury Bench belongs. We are not concerned with the grounds on which these squabbles take place. But we are concerned with the general effect they have on administration. They have a demoralising effect. There was a convention laid down that no Member of the Legislature should rush to the Press and give in advance any motion or question till

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it is admitted or brought before the Legislature. This convention is being violated. Motions that are given notice of, before even they are admitted, are in the hands of the Press and a lot of propaganda is being carried on by one side or the other. We are not interested in how far the allegations made by one group in a Party against others are correct, or how far they are well advised in making them. But so far as we are concerned, interested as we are in the welfare of the State, we strongly deprecate this kind of propaganda that is being carried on in the Press. I do not know why the Party in power cannot put down with an iron hand this kind of indiscipline that is affecting and demoralizing the administration. I will say what effect it has on the officials who are in charge of administration. When Ministers are accused of corruption and those charges are published in the Press, it must have a demoralising effect on the officials. Generally no one worries himself to find out whether those charges are correct or not. The complainants went before their own executive, the highest executive of their Party and laid their case. They received a verdict. If they have any grievance against it, let them ventilate their grievances *in camera* in their Party. Let them not make it a public business. We protested some time ago when a similar situation arose and when a previous Congress Ministry was in office and we deeply regret that their Party squabbles are being brought to the public notice, thereby causing a kind of demoralisation in the administration. I do not know whether the Cabinet have considered seriously this aspect of the matter. We are not concerned with individual Ministers but with what effect this kind of propaganda will have on administration in general which may affect efficiency. I do not want to say further except to ask the Members of the Treasury Bench to ponder deeply over the matter and set their House in order by taking such action as is necessary so that the welfare of the State may not be affected and administration may be carried on as efficiently as it should be. I can very well understand, when such accusations are made against Members of the Treasury Bench—being human—how much they must have been affected and how much they must have been interfered with in the discharge of their duties. I shall presently show how even a very jovial and enthusiastic person like the Hon. the Finance Minister has been affected in framing this budget. It is natural; I do not blame him. Human as we are, these things have a bad effect on those in charge of administration and they should be put a stop to.

“ Sir, I deeply regret that this Government were hustled and made to come to conclusions on the question of the Andhra Province. It appears from what has appeared in the Press that one individual must have dominated the whole show and made this Government come to decisions. But what is the effect of those decisions? I hope one day the correspondence that passed between this Government and the Government of India will be published and it will show how poorly our Government have come out in the matter. It is a talk in the buses, tramcars and everywhere. People do not understand why this Government should have taken

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such a hasty step especially when it was known that the Government of India were not anxious to bring into existence the Andhra Province before January 26, 1950. I feel a serious blow has been dealt by the Government of India on the Government of this State because they have pointed out how hasty we were in passing the resolution for the setting up of the Andhra High Court on account of the misapprehension under which this Government were labouring and also in various other matters connected with the division of the Province such as the allocation of assets and liabilities and the deficit that the proposed Province would have to face as soon as it came into existence. I would refer to another serious thing. I am sure I would not be giving out any official secret. This Government went to the extent of issuing orders to some of their officers who wanted to opt out to draw their salaries and travelling allowance on the 23rd of January and be ready to leave their places. What demoralising effect it will have on those officers who are asked to pack everything and be ready when the Province was yet to come into existence, can well be imagined."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We issued only orders not to keep things pending for a long time. For six months an officer had not drawn his travelling allowance. We wanted that the whole thing should be closed before the 26th January."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I sympathise with the Finance Minister; he was only a creature of circumstances. I do not blame him if his department issued such an order. It showed that in the districts all officers who wanted to opt out were getting ready because they thought it had become a *fait accompli*. Some of them were thinking of making arrangements for the education of their children and in the middle of the term they had to take away their children from the schools in which they were reading. All this disturbance could have been avoided even if the Andhra Province had to come into existence and things could have been done leisurely and well. I feel our Government were practically hustled—I use the word advisedly in the matter—and I wish that the Members of the Treasury Bench had shown greater strength in resisting and not becoming victims of this hustling.

"Sir, from the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister already reported, I find he was very sorry that nobody complimented him for his budget. I wish I could give him the compliment which he naturally feels he richly deserves. But when he gloats over the fact that he has not imposed new taxes and that he is carrying on this Government without embarrassing people further, I would only like to draw his attention to certain facts which he has himself furnished. The revenue of this State in 1945-46 was 48 crores of which the excise revenue formed 17 crores. To-day according to the budget, it is 55 crores but last year it was 57 crores. Let us remember that this revenue has not only made good the loss of the excise revenue but has also given in addition Rs. 723 lakhs.

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Therefore, can the Finance Minister dare say that we are not taxed enough? Has not this State made enough sacrifice for the socio-economic reforms such as prohibition? I do not think he should grumble because I find he once went about the country advising the people to bear more taxes. Has not this State given him 17 crores which was lost in excise revenue, as well as Rs. 723 lakhs within a course of four years? Which other State has made good so much money which he needed not only to make up the loss in revenue but also to provide for many other socio-economic activities? I think this State has done very well with this Government. The citizens of this State should feel justly proud that in assisting this Government to carry out the costly experiment of prohibition, they have stood by this Government. What they expect from the Government is that the necessities of life and the few amenities that they need should be provided. Is it wrong if, from that point of view, the budget is criticised? I do not think the Finance Minister should feel at all dissatisfied if some of us criticise his budget only from that point of view.

“Sir, it is made much of in the budget that nation-building services have received large amounts since 1945-46. May I ask the Finance Minister whether the increased provision is commensurate with the sacrifices the people have made for these nation-building services? I feel if he properly assesses, he will himself say that though much has been done, it is not sufficient to create enthusiasm because the nation-building departments need much more than what he has been able to provide. I request the Government to look into this matter because anti-social elements are exploiting the situation and all the disasters of the kind which we witness are the result of gullible people being taken into their hands and made to commit grave mistakes thereby causing destruction of life and property. I would, therefore, like the Finance Minister to examine his budget from this point of view and see how best to win the people to the side of the Government and make them realize that the Government are interested in, and are doing their best to promote the welfare of the common man. It is not the mere provision of Rs. 54 lakhs more for education or a few lakhs here and there but the ultimate effect of all these measures which increases the total welfare of the common man. Judged from this standpoint, I must say this budget does not create enthusiasm. In fact it is even disappointing.

“My Hon. Friend the Finance Minister in the course of his budget statement said that it is not possible to carry out the proposals of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee and that retrenchment to the extent contemplated by the Committee is out of the question. He quoted official opposition in support of his statement. Of course, the officials are always opposed to retrenchment. May I ask what did the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee do? Every recommendation of theirs is based after consulting the Heads of Departments. Let us take the Agricultural Department. The Retrenchment Committee, of which I happened to be a Member, merely consulted the Head of the Department who gave out his suggestions which were designed to

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bring about good retrenchment in his Department. But, what has happened? Instead of effecting retrenchment, more expenditure is being incurred on the personnel in that Department. We suggested a savings of $4\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees—I mean known savings—because there are many items where we have said savings are not known. But what is the saving that they have been able to effect? Perhaps a crore or two out of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ crores recommended by us. I request the Finance Minister to examine this question once again. Whether right or wrong, there is a feeling that more appointments are being made and more departments are being created. There is also the feeling that those departments are being created more with a view to provide employment than with a view to promote the welfare of the common man. I would like him to take into account the psychology of the ordinary citizen. He may consider him unreasonable, but after all he is the man who has to settle the fate of the Government. I would like him to examine again whether it is not possible to go into this question. Naturally, it is the tradition of the officialdom to say that no retrenchment is possible in their department. Sir, if the Hon. Finance Minister thinks that we were not sufficiently well-equipped to make recommendations on retrenchment, let him appoint an officer to go into the case of each department and see whether such a number of personnel is necessary and whether the work that they do is commensurate with the expenditure incurred on the personnel and examine the question in a thorough manner. We have no predilections one way or the other. But I feel, having had an opportunity of knowing the working of all the departments, that there is still scope for retrenchment and that retrenchment to the extent we have suggested can be effected.

“ Then I come to the reorganization proposals. We have suggested certain proposals in this regard. I am deeply grateful to the Hon. Finance Minister and the members of the Cabinet for accepting the Pension-cum-Insurance-Provident Fund Scheme. I think that this scheme is likely to promote goodwill and co-operation and willing service from the members of the services. Unfortunately, from what has been published, I find that it is not extended to inferior servants. I would like him to examine whether it is not possible, even if it costs the State a little extra, to extend the scheme further so that the inferior servants too may feel that they are servants of the Government and in their own spheres they are also discharging the duties as Government servants to promote the welfare of the State.

“ Then, we have suggested, what is called ‘pooling’ in the Secretariat. Most of the officials whom we consulted were in favour of this ‘pooling’. I am not giving out a secret, if I say that the Chief Secretary himself was in favour of this ‘pooling’, which he undertook to carry out. Somehow or other, that has not been accepted. What is the result? In some departments an upper division clerk has become an Assistant Secretary and may even become a Deputy Secretary, while in other departments even Superintendents are rotting for years without any promotion in the same department. Is this calculated to promote efficiency in

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the administration? The goodwill of the staff is very necessary. So, let him take up this question and examine the case of each department. I beg of him in the interests of efficiency in the Secretariat administration to reconsider this matter. The pooling of Secretariat staff is one of the essential reforms that is necessary if efficiency is to be promoted. Everyday the Government must be getting appeals. But the answer is, 'in our department there are no vacancies'. There is one department, Sir, in the Secretariat which is growing and growing in spite of the best efforts of the Hon. Finance Minister and that is the Development Department. The Development Department Secretary, I am told, has to deal with something like eight Ministers. Why do you allow a department to grow like that? Can it not be split up into more than one department so that the Secretary may have to deal with only one or two Ministers instead of eight Ministers. If a paper has to go round to eight Ministers in circulation before an order is passed, how much time will it take? This Development Department should have enough subjects. Naturally, when one Secretary assisted by his Deputy and Assistant Secretaries, has to deal with the work of so many sections, I shall not be surprised if there is not that amount of attention given to the problems relating to the subjects that are dealt with by the department, which they deserve. I wish, Sir, that this is taken into account.

"Again, we went out of our way and also suggested certain changes in the Ministers also. For example, we have suggested that certain Ministers should be given some subjects and certain others some other subjects. Sir, we have not been furnished with a list of subjects dealt with by each Minister as they used to do before. But, from the way the questions are answered by each Minister, we feel that some Ministers have more subjects and some have less subjects. In the interests of efficiency, may I suggest that there should be a proper allocation of portfolios in such a way that each Minister can give his best to his work and the Province may be benefited by it. I am sure that the Hon. Chief Minister had no intention of burdening some of his colleagues with more work and some with less work. The allocation may be by mere accident. But, may I request the Hon. Chief Minister to look into this matter.

"I would also like Government to see that secretariat procedure is followed and observed in the Secretariat. There is a well-laid down procedure. Unfortunately, it is being more honoured in the breach than in observance. Sir, certain persons in the Secretariat only can write notes and the notes are to be written by the higher officials and all the rest have to collect papers and put them up."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It is not the case in Madras. It may be so in Delhi Secretariat."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I wish to refer my Hon. Friend to the rules. I had occasion to study these rules as I was more interested in efficiency. The Secretariat Office Manual clearly lays down the procedure. It is too lengthy and I would

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request the Hon. Finance Minister to look into it and see if what I have stated is correct. It says that the work of preparing notes is not assigned to Superintendents, and it is definitely laid down that noting and drafting on cases of difficult or complicated nature should as far as possible be done by the Under Secretary or Assistant Secretary. The rule is equally applicable to Assistant Secretaries. Sir, I am not suggesting these in a fault-finding spirit, but my only wish is that the efficiency of our Secretariat has got to be maintained, because it has a great reputation for efficiency.

“Then coming to the budget proper, I had intended to deal with Prohibition. As I stated, this Province has made a great sacrifice of 17 crores. The people—some willingly and others unwillingly—have been paying the taxes imposed, in order to make good the loss on account of Prohibition. May I know whether this Government are satisfied that the steps taken to enforce Prohibition are adequate and satisfactory. The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee suggested that it should be handed over to the Police department. In some districts, I am told, the Police are engaged in enforcement and in other districts the Excise department still continue to enforce it. We want to know when the reform is going to be effected. May we also know when the difference in ‘Police station’ and ‘Prohibition station’ will disappear? In Edward Elliot’s Road, we have a Prohibition station. Later on when we go to the Ice House Road, we find that there is a Police station. Why should there be this difference? Is not Prohibition which is placed on the Statute Book to be enforced by the Police with as much vigour as any other law passed by the State? I do not know why this difference is to be maintained. I am told the Police are anxious to maintain this difference. The Retrenchment Committee have also suggested certain things regarding Police stations. Where there are three stations including the Prohibition station, make them two. The cost is not going to be more. Even if it is more, it does not matter. The Province which has made a sacrifice of 17 crores can willingly sacrifice one crore more to enforce law. The fact of the matter is that even Congressmen are dissatisfied with Prohibition and think that it has become a myth. I am not one of those who share this view. It may be a party or group which is making such accusations. I know that there is great scope for improvement in the enforcement of Prohibition. May I request—interested as most of us are in this socio-economic reform—the Government to do everything possible to see that there is proper enforcement.

“Then the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee also suggested certain reforms regarding rural recreation, cottage industries and all that. It was also suggested that the subject of welfare of the common man should be tackled by one department, instead of compelling the common man to look to various departments, for assistance to improve his economic conditions. To achieve this object, we have suggested that all these things should be in the hands of one department, so that the villager who wishes

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to avail of the services of the department can do so without difficulty. But, when we see the Budget, it is very confusing. Rural development is under one head, cottage industries is under another head and so on. It is very difficult for us, laymen, not conversant with the art of finance, to find out how much we are spending on the enforcement of Prohibition. These ameliorative measures are equally necessary in order to promote Prohibition.

“ Then, in the Education Budget, a provision was made for the reorganization of the Presidency College last year, but nothing is provided this year. May I ask the Government what their views are and why nothing has been provided?

“ Last year a large amount was provided for reorganization. 12-30
The Hon. the Minister suggested that the appointment of a p.m.
Professor of Psychology was in consonance with the reorganization scheme. May I know why more provision has not been made and also what action has been taken by the Government on the various other recommendations made by the Committee for the reorganization of the Presidency College? Then, I must come to the provision made for the advancement of secondary and primary education. I feel the provision is very inadequate. My Hon. Friend—the Minister for Education—has been saying that the provision has been increased by about 54 lakhs or so. I ask, what is it compared to the population of this State to-day? Unfortunately, my Hon. Friend was absent when I pleaded the other day for more provision for elementary education. Sir, the school-going population is increasing. But the increase in the provision made now for educational facilities is not keeping pace with the increase in the school-going population. This problem should be tackled satisfactorily. Here also, the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee had a suggestion to make and that was that the Government should have a definite plan to see that free and compulsory education was provided within a period of ten years. The New Constitution of India also places that responsibility on the State. I wish, in the circumstances, that the Hon. the Minister for Education had prepared a programme and seen that sufficient funds were made available for this purpose so that he could satisfy the objectives of State Policy as laid down in the Constitution of India, namely, that all citizens should be provided with facilities for free and compulsory education within a period of ten years. Then, the amount provided for buildings and equipment is very little as compared with the needs of the large number of schools scattered all over the whole State. Without buildings and equipment I do not know what the school master can do. We cannot blame him if he is found not as efficient as he should be if he is to work amidst surroundings which are least calculated to create any enthusiasm for work. Above all, he is the most poorly paid man. The other day, speaking on the Address of His Excellency the Governor, I pointed out the urgent necessity to tackle this problem of salaries for teachers, especially of the elementary school teachers, if elementary education is to progress at all. I read out extracts from ‘*The Times Educational Supplement*’ how in England, where teachers are better paid than perhaps our teachers and where the teaching profession is

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more respected than in this country, there is an urge made that the question of remuneration for teachers in the organization of primary education should, in view of the existing cost of living in that country, receive first priority. May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Education what he has done here in this connexion? Sir, it is very sickening and disheartening that year after year some of us here plead for the poor elementary school teacher and go back without any result. It is obvious that the efficiency of the elementary school teacher is going down day by day and I am afraid it has reached a stage now which no responsible authority can think of with equanimity. Something must be done to promote the enthusiasm of these people so that they may give of their best to turn out useful citizens for the future.

"Coming to Public Health, Sir, I am surprised that no contribution from general revenues has been made to the Rural Water-supply Fund. The reason given is there is sufficient balance in the fund, as a result of the expenditure having been offset by similar provisions made for other purposes. I see, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister for Public Health has already drawn enough and very little remains. I would like to know why he should not have adequate provision made for him separately, as in the case of Harijan Welfare Department. If we look at the statement showing the transactions of the fund in the last few years, we shall find that as against a provision of 100 lakhs of rupees in 1947-48 the withdrawals were only about 9.39 lakhs—evidently the department was not active then—and subsequently there was no provision made and there were only withdrawals. Last year a sum of rupees ten lakhs was provided and now the fund stands at 28.32 lakhs. Unless regular contributions are made to this fund from which the Hon. the Minister can draw whenever he feels a scheme for rural water-supply should be prepared, I am afraid, he may have to go again and again to the Secretariat—to the Finance Minister ultimately—only to be told that no funds can be spared and all his efforts will go in vain. I wish he had pleaded and got ten lakhs more at least for this year.

"Sir, there are differences of opinion regarding the khadi scheme. Promotion of khadi as a cottage industry is a thing, no one, I am sure, will take objection to. But, when it is imposed because the party in power believes it as an article of faith, naturally there is a spirit of rebellion engendered in those who are asked to accept it. Let Government, by all means, have khadi producing centres, produce good khadi and even subsidise it, if they like, in marketing. But to compel every one—because it is a local board or a municipality—to buy khadi for their servants, is to compel people to do things to which they do not subscribe. It may be that in most of the Municipalities and District Boards the party in power to-day holds sway. But, Sir, many resolutions have been passed by several local bodies that it is very difficult for them to invest so much in khadi for providing dress for their employees and that they should be permitted to go in for some other dress other than khadi. Then, I am not able to know the difference between intensive khadi scheme and

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extensive khadi scheme. It seems to me a distinction without a difference. I would like some of the Hon. Ministers to go into the question and find out if khadi cannot be taken up as a cottage industry and the Cottage Industries Department made responsible for its working instead of a Khadi Special Officer. Again, I do not know whose subordinate this Special Officer is—whether of the Director of Industries like the Cottage Industries Officer. There should be a co-ordinated plan for the development of cottage industries of which khadi may form a main part, and this should be placed in the charge of the Director of Industries. Then, I may assure you, Sir, great results can be achieved and marketing of khadi will also become easier than now when it is thrust upon people by an executive order of the Government.

“ Sir, I am very grateful to the Hon. the Minister for Public Works for the large provision he has made for capital outlay, both from the Revenue account and from outside it. May I ask, however, whether the provision of 60 lakhs of rupees he has made will suffice for the number of schemes he has enumerated at the end. It may be as many as a dozen may fructify in the course of the year. The number of schemes contemplated is very large and to that extent I am glad in that the schemes are receiving the attention of the Government. I wonder if he can find more money to put these schemes through. Therefore, all that I request him is—he is more successful than any other Minister in getting money from the Hon. the Finance Minister (laughter) and I hope he will continue to be so and wish him all success—to remember that the ultimate welfare of the common man depends on the promotion of agriculture. Development of agro-industries is possible only by promoting irrigation schemes. I am sure he will not rest content with what he has been able to do and his radio talk which he gave the day before yesterday is much more encouraging than the provision he has made in the Budget. I hope he will be able to realise what he has stated in that talk so that in the course of two or three years, we shall not place ourselves any more at the mercy of the Government of India and go abegging as my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Food does day after day asking for a few tons of rice or a few tons of wheat. How derogatory it is now to the self-respect of our State when our Food Minister—notwithstanding the vigour with which he puts forth his case before the Central Government—has to receive an unsatisfactory answer? Despite his apprising them of the famine conditions obtaining here, they are very niggardly in allotting supplies that we need. I hope, Sir, with the completion of these various schemes, we shall be able to produce more very soon when the Government of India may have to come to us begging that we should export some of our grains to the other parts of the country. I am sure that day is not far off. If all of us combine and make an effort without frittering away our energy on questions like partition of the State and partition of the assets and liabilities, there is great scope in this State for development. Our strength will increase. As against the North, to-day we are perhaps suffering a great deal because of fissiparous

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tendencies. Once we give them up and put our shoulders together and try to help ourselves, I am sure, we will be soon the cynosure of all eyes and many will perhaps envy us and we will be able to extort admiration from those living in the other States. Sir, with these words I close my remarks."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—“ఇవాన్స్, కొత్త పన్నులు వేయకుండా ఈ సంవత్సరం బడ్జెటును తయారుచేసినందులకు గౌరవనీయులుగారికి గోసాల రెడ్డిగారిని హృదయపూర్వకంగా ఆభినందించవలసియున్నది. కాని ఒక వేళ Supplementary Budget ను ప్రవేశపెట్టేటప్పుడు ఏదైనా కొత్త పన్నులు వేస్తారేమోనా నాకు తెలియదు. ఆ విషయం చేయడం మంచిదికాదని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇక ముందు కొత్త పన్నులు ఏమీ విధించరని అనుకొంటున్నాను.

“ఇదివరకు మద్రాసునుంచి కలకత్తాకు పోయే railway trains రెండు ఉండేవి. కాని దంమిలాను ఒక రైల్వే వేసివారు దీనిని మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లానుంచి మద్రాసుకు కలకత్తాకు పోయే ప్రయాణీకులకు చాలా ఇబ్బందిగా ఉన్నది. కాబట్టి మరొక through train ను కూడా రైల్వేవారు వేసేటట్లుగా recommend చేస్తారని, ప్రయాణీకులకు సౌకర్యము కలుగజేస్తారని, అనుకొంటున్నాను.

“అంతేకాకుండా రెగ్యులర్ ప్రయాణముచేసే సందర్భంలో Legislators కు preference ఇవ్వవలసినదని ఇదివరలో ప్రభుత్వమువారు order లు pass చేసి ఉన్నప్పటికీకూడా రైల్వేవారు ఏవిధమైన ప్రాధాన్యత preference ఇవ్వటం లేదు. ఈ విషయంగురించి ప్రభుత్వంవారు రైల్వేవారికి కాని Legislator లకు preference ఇచ్చేటట్లు చూడగోస్తాను.

“ఈ ఉదయం Opposition Leader గారు తీసుకొనివచ్చిన resolution తో నేనుకూడా ఏకీభవిస్తున్నాను. కలకత్తా మెయిల్ పడిపోవుటపై భావలకు గురియైన వారికి నా సానుభూతి తెలియజేస్తున్నాను.

“కంట్రిబ్యూషన్ తీసివేయవలసినదని మహాత్ముడు మనకు అనేకసార్లు చెప్పినాడు. ఆయన బ్రహ్మచర్యంపైను కంట్రిబ్యూషన్ కొంతవరకు తీసివేయబడినది. కాని ఆయన తరువాత తరువాత మరల కంట్రిబ్యూషన్ పెట్టినారు. గాంధీ మహాత్ముడు పోయిన తరువాత ఆయనయొక్క ఆశయాలను వివిధమైన విధాల ఇవ్వబడచున్నట్లు లేదు. ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారికి ఎవని భయము లేనట్లున్నది.

“ఈమధ్య గవర్నరు మెంటువారు బెల్లం ఎగుమతి కంట్రిబ్యూషన్ తీసివారు. దీనివల్ల ముఖ్యంగా మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలోని చెరుకును పండించే రైతులకు చాలా నష్టం సంభవించింది. మన ప్రభుత్వంవారు జారీచేసిన ఉత్తర్వు ‘అంధ ప్రతిక’లో (28-2-50 తేదీ ప్రతిక) వివిధంగా ఉన్నదో మనవిచేస్తాను.

“బెల్లం ఎగుమతులపై నిషేధం. మద్రాసు ఫిబ్రవరి 25 —మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రము నుండి ఇతర రాష్ట్రములకు బెల్లం ఎగుమతిని నిషేధించుచూ ప్రభుత్వము ఒక ఉత్తర్వును అపొధారణ గెజిటులో ప్రకటించెను.

“ఈ ఉత్తర్వువల్ల రాష్ట్రములో ఒక చోటనండి మరొక చోటికి రవాణా చేయుటకు నిషేధ మేమీ లేదు.

“ఈ ఉత్తర్వుకింద జారీచేసిన పత్రికను సరికు రవాణా పూర్తియైన తరువాత గాని లేదా గడువు పూర్తియైన తరువాతగాని సరికు సంపునారు కమిషనరుకు నామను చేయవలెను.

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“ఎవరైనా ఈ ఉత్తర్యులని వరకులను పుల్లంఘించిన, ఉల్లంఘనగరించి వికారింపచున్న కోర్టు, బెల్లము చూతులు వానిని చేయ వేయ సాధనములు ప్రభుత్వవశ మగునని పుత్తర్యు చేయవచ్చును.”

“ప్రభుత్వంవారి పుత్తర్యు ఈ మాదిరిగా ఉన్నది. అంతేకాకుండా ఒక్క రెల్ల మీదనే ఎగుమతి చేయకూడదు. స్టీమర్లు, బస్సులు మొదలైనవాటిమీద ఎగుమతి చేయుటకు ఆధ్వర్యంవారు కనిపించటం లేదు. ఈ విధంగా ఒక్క రైలు మార్గద్వారా బెల్లం ఎగుమతిని నిషేధించినంతమాత్రంచేత ఏ విధం ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలకు బెల్లం వెళ్లకుండా చూడాలి? తెలియటలేదు. విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలో అనకాపల్లి ప్రాంతం ద్వారా వలస బెల్లం మార్కెట్. ఎంతోకాలంనుండి ఆక్కడి రైతులు చెరుకు నాక చేసుకుంటూ, వారి స్వంత వెనాలమీద బెల్లం తయారు చేసుకొని, మన రాష్ట్రంలోనే ఇతర ప్రదేశాలకు, ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలకు లెక్కం సరిగ్గా ఉన్నవారు. ఈ పద్ధతివల్ల రైతులకు కొంత లాభం కలుగుతోంది. కాని ఇప్పుడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేసిన పుత్తర్యులను రైతులు బెల్లాని సరిగ్గా మన ధరిలకు అమ్మకొనడం వీలవుతుందా ఉన్నది. మార్కెట్లో బెల్లం కాలా నిలవ ఉండిపోయింది. మన కాంక్రీట్ ప్రభుత్వంవారి ఉద్దేశం గ్రామాలలో ఉండే రైతులకు లాభం కలుగజేయడమని అంటున్నారు. కాని ఈ విధంగా బెల్లం ఎగుమతి నిషేధించడంవలన రైతులకు లాభం కలుగటం లేదు; సరిగ్గా చాలా నష్టం సహించిపోయింది. మా జిల్లాలో ఉండే తుమ్మపాల, బొబ్బిలి మొదలైన చోట్ల ఉండే వందల రైతులకు factory లకు చెరుకు supply చేయాలనే ఉద్దేశంతోనే ఈ నిషేధం చేసినారని రైతులు అనుకుంటున్నారు. పెద్ద పెద్ద mill owner లను support చేయటానికి ప్రభుత్వం ప్రయత్నం చేస్తోందని, పెద్ద రైతుల మొరలు ఆలకించడంలేదని రైతులలో ఆసక్తి కలుగుతోంది.

“రెల్లమీదగా బెల్లం ఎగుమతిచేయడం నిషేధించినంతమాత్రంచేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఎగుమతిని ఆపడం ఎట్లా సాధ్యమో నాకు అర్థమగుటలేదు. ఒక్క రెల్లమీదగా బెల్లం వంతుకూడదుగాని, స్టీమర్లమీద, బస్సులమీద ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలకు వంతువచ్చు. ఈమధ్యన మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లానుంచి బెజవాడ దగ్గర ఉన్న మన రాష్ట్రంలోని కొండపల్లి స్టేషన్ వరకు ఒక ఆనామి బెల్లం రైతు మీద తీసుకొనిపోయి, అక్కడనుంచి బస్సుమీద మొదలైనా తీసుకొనిపోయిపట్టు విన్నాము. కాబట్టి ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఇమింటి నిషేధాలు చేసినంతమాత్రాన ఇతర ప్రాంతాలకు బెల్లం చేయడం ఆపడం కష్టం. కాని చెరుకు పండించే రైతుకు ఉత్తర విస్తరించి. ఈ విషయాన్ని గురించి ప్రభుత్వం వారు తిరిగి ఆలోచించాలి. రైతులయొక్క లాభానికంటే ఎక్కువగా ఉన్నప్పుడే, బొబ్బిలి వందల రైతులకు చెరుకు supply చేయడమే ముఖ్యంగా ఎంచి ప్రభుత్వం వారు పుత్తర్యు pass చేయడం మంచిదకాదని నా అభిప్రాయము. ఇదివరలో ఒక సారి ఇది విధంగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు రైలం ఎగుమతి నిషేధించి, తుమ్మపాల మిల్లుకు రైతులు చెరుకు ఉన్న 40 రూపాయలకు అమ్మాలని అన్నారు. ఆ సందర్భం రైతులకు చాలా నష్టం వచ్చింది. ప్రభుత్వంవారి ఆర్థికకు అంకాశంగా తీసుకొని factory వారు అనేక సాకులను చూపెట్ట మంచి రకంకాదనో, దగ్గరడి సరిగ్గా చేదనో చెప్పి దన్ను 30 రూపాయలకు 30 రూపాయలకు కొన్నారు. ఈ విధంగా ఒక్కవ ధనికు ఆస్థానం రైతుకు ఎంత నష్టం సంభవిస్తుందో ప్రభుత్వంవారు గమనించాలి. ఎవరో భాగ్యవంతులని కావలసిన పంచదార మిల్లువాళ్లు తయారుచేయడంకోసం చెరుకును పండించే చిన్న చిన్న రైతులను ఇబ్బందిల పాలు చేయడం నుంచి కాద. అనకాపల్లి దగ్గర ఉన్న తుమ్మపాలలో ఒక చిన్న sugar factory ఉన్నది. అనకా పల్లి మట్టుపట్టు ఉన్న చెరుకుకుంటే ఈ factory కి కావలసినదానికిన్నా చాలా

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ఎక్కువ. అక్కడ వుండే చెరుకును ఈ factory ఉపయోగించుకోలేదు. కాబట్టి ఈ బెల్లం ఎగుమతి నిషేధాన్ని తొలగించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వంవారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“మా జిల్లాలోని బొబ్బిలిలో ఇప్పుడు ఒక sugar factory ఉన్నది. అక్కడ ఇంకొక పెద్ద factory ని కట్టుతున్నారు. ఆ factory వారు జనవరి ఒకటవ తారీకున పని మొదలుపెడతామని, జనవరి 15 కు మొదలుపెడతామని, ఫిబ్రవరిలో మొదలుపెడతామని చెప్పి కాలయాచక చేస్తున్నారు. మార్చి వచ్చింది కాని ఇంకా పని ప్రారంభం కాలేదు. Factory సకాలంలో పని ప్రారంభం చేయకపోవడంవలన చెరుకు పండించే రైతులకు చాలా దండగ వస్తోంది. చెరుకులో కొన్ని రకాలు డిశంబరు నెల ఆధారకు కోతకు వస్తాయి. ఆ రకం చెరుకును జనవరి నెలలోనైనా కోయకపోతే రసం తగ్గిపోతుంది. ఎక్కువ కాలం చెరుకు చేలో ఉంటే వెన్ను వేసి రైతుకు చాలా నష్టం వస్తుంది. Factory లో ఎప్పుడు కని ప్రారంభిస్తారో తెలియకుండా ఎంత కాలం రైతు చెరుకు కోయకుండా ఉంటాడు. ఈ విషయాల నన్నింటిని Food Minister గారు మా జిల్లా వచ్చివున్న వారికి తెలియజేసినాము. కాని వారు ఏ విధమైన action తీసుకొనినట్లు కనిపించుటలేదు. సకాలంలో వ్యతిరేకుకోకపోతే రైతులు ఎంతో నష్టపడతారు. ఈ విషయాల నన్నింటిని ప్రభుత్వంవారు తిరిగి పరిశీలన చేయించి బెల్లం ఎగుమతిపై నిషేధాన్ని రద్దుచేసి చెరుకు పండించుకొనే పేద రైతులకు నష్టం రాకుండా చూడవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

“Sales tax విషయంలో చాలా జాగ్రత్తపాట్లు జరుగుచున్నవని అనుకుంటున్నాను. ఉదాహరణంగా, మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలో నారీ అమ్మకాలపై sales tax వసూలు చేయబడుటలేదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. కలెక్టర్ వర్తకులు మా జిల్లానంచి నాలుగు, ఐదు కోట్ల రూపాయల విలువగల నారీ కొనుక్కొని ఎగుమతి చేసుకుంటున్నారు. దీనిలో ఏ 25 లక్షలమీద 30 లక్షలమీద sales tax వసూలు చేయబడుతోంది కాని మిగతా దానిమీద పన్ను వసూలు చేయబడుట లేదు. ఇటువంటి చిన్న చిన్న లోటుపాట్లను సవరించినట్లయితే ఎక్కువ పన్ను వసూలు అవుతుంది. అందుచేత sales tax rate ను తగ్గించి consumers కు తక్కువ ధరకు ఇతర సరుకులను ఇవ్వటానికి అవకాశము కల్గించవలసినదని మంత్రివారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“Sales tax ఉద్యోగస్తులు ఆ నేత సంవత్సరములో వర్తకులను ఇబ్బందులు పెడుతున్నారు. అందులో చిన్న చిన్న వర్తకులకు చెబ్బు తగులుతోంది. ఈ వర్తకులయొక్క నిజమైన అమ్మకములనే రెక్క తీసుకోకుండా అమ్మకాలపై 15% 20% ఎక్కువ వేసి, దానిమీద sales tax కడుతున్నారు. అంటే వర్తకులకు 15% 20% లాభము వస్తుందని రెక్క కట్టి లాభంమీదకూడా పన్ను వేయడం ధర్మంకాదు. ఎవరికి 15%, 20% లాభము రాదు. ఎవరో ఒక వర్తకుడు ఇచ్చిపాడనే కారణం చేత అందరు అదే విధంగా ఇవ్వాలనడం న్యాయం కాదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. కాబట్టి లోటుపాట్ల నన్నింటిని సవరించి, కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వంవారు కొంతవరకు income tax తగ్గించినట్లు sales tax కూడా rate తగ్గించవలసినదని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ఇప్పుడు ఒక వస్తువు మీద అయిదు లేక ఆరు sales tax లు పడుతున్నాయి. ఉదాహరణముగా పంచదార విషయం మనవి చేస్తాను. మనకు C.P. నుంచి పంచదార వస్తుంది. అక్కడ ఒక sales tax, అక్కడ నుంచి విశాఖపట్నం జిల్లాలోని agent దగ్గర ఒకసారి sales tax, wholesale dealer దగ్గర ఇంకొక sales tax, retail dealer దగ్గరకు వచ్చేటప్పుడు మరొకసారి sales tax, consumer కొనుక్కొనేటప్పుడు నేరే మళ్లీ sales tax ఇచ్చుకోవలసి వస్తోంది. ఈ విధంగా ఆరు

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వోట్ల sales tax ఒక వస్తువును చెల్లించినట్లయితే ధర ఎంత హెచ్చిపోయిందో ప్రభుత్వంవారు గుర్తించాలి. రూ 80 లకు కొన్న వస్తువు ధర రూ 100 consumer దగ్గరకు వచ్చేసరికి రూ 96 లు అయిపోతుంది. దీనివల్ల వర్తకులకు వచ్చే లాభం తగ్గి పోతుంది, consumer లకు హెచ్చుధర అయిపోతుంది."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ వర్తకులకు లాభమేకాని నష్టం లేదు.”

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—“ ఆ విధంగా లాభం రాదు. రూ 80 లు ఆస్తులే రూ 1-8-0 లాభం ఉంటుంది. కాని ఇన్ని వోట్ల sales tax ఇవ్వటం వలన బస్తాకు రూ 11-2-6 కూడా లాభం కనిపించుచుంటుంది. కాబట్టి sales tax వారము కొంటేనా తగ్గించవలసివచ్చిన Finance Minister గారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“ మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా చాలా పెద్ద జిల్లా. ఒక వైపున ఒరిస్సా ఇంకొక వైపున Central Provinces ఉన్నవి. మా జిల్లాలో agency ప్రాంతము చాలా హెచ్చుగా ఉన్నది. ఈ agency ప్రాంతంలో prohibition లేదు అందుచేత అనేక లోటుపాట్లు సంభవించుచున్నవి. విజన్స్ పట్టుపట్ట తాలూకావార్లు విజన్స్ ప్రాంతాలలోనికిగాయి దొంగతనంగా సారా తయారు చేస్తున్నారు. వారిని పట్టుకోవటానికి prohibition ఉద్యోగస్తులకు సాధ్యపడడంలేదు. కాని ఈ ఉద్యోగస్తులకు ఆయుధాలు లేవు. ఆయుధాలు లేకుండా దొంగసారాయి తయారుచేసేవారిని పట్టుకోవడం చాలా సమాదకరము. దొంగసారాయి తయారుచేసేవారు కొండలపైన, అడవులలోను తయారు చేస్తారు. వాళ్లను పట్టుకోవటం prohibition ఉద్యోగులకు ఆయుధాలు ఉండాలి. ఆస్తుడు గాని prohibition పూర్తిగా జయపదముకాదు. ఈ prohibition కూడా Police department వారిచేతులలో ఉంచినట్లయితే మంచిది. పోలీసు department వారికి ఆయుధాలు ఉంటాయి. వారంటే దొంగసారాయి తయారుచేసేవార్లు భయపడుతారు, అందువల్ల prohibition స్వక్రమంగా కొనసాగించడానికి ఎక్కువ అవకాశాలుంటాయని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“ ఈ prohibition పెట్టిన తరువాత ఎందుచేతనో కాని దొంగతనాలు హెచ్చి పోయినాయి. బహుశా దొంగసారాయి తాగటానికి ఎక్కువ డబ్బు కావలసి వచ్చుట చేత తాగుబోతులు దొంగతనం చేస్తున్నారుని అనుకొంటాను. ఈ సభ్యుల మా పురోహితుని ఇంటాల్ల తెల్లవారగట్ల గి గంటలకు దొంగతనం జరిగింది. 20 మిలాల బంగారం కూయింది. ఆయన పోలీసువాడిదగ్గరకు పోయి report చేస్తానంటే ఈ కేసు పట్టుకోవడం కష్టమని report యివ్వవద్దని పోలీసువారు అన్నట్లు తెలిసింది. పోలీసులు కూడా పెద్దకేసులు book చేసుకోవటం లేదు. చిన్న చిన్న కేసులు విశాఖ జైలు దొంగతనాల వంటివి, వారి లెక్కలలో తెచ్చి సరిపెట్టడంకోసము కట్టుకొంటున్నారు గాని పెద్ద పెద్ద కేసులు వదలివేస్తున్నారు. కాబట్టి పోలీసువారు మరి కొంత హెచ్చు శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొంటే, దొంగతనాలు తగ్గతాయని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“ Rent control విషయం కొంత తెలియచేస్తాను. ఆర్థిక శక్తిని చేస్తామని అనడంవల్ల ఇళ్ల యజమానులకు చాలా నష్టం వస్తోంది. ఈ రోజులలో కొత్త ఇళ్ల కట్టటానికిగాని, పాతవిని మరమ్మత్తు చేయించడానికిగాని ఎంత హెచ్చు ఖర్చు అవుతుందో అందరకు తెలిసినటువంటి విషయమిది. ఇదివరకు ఒకరూపాయి ఖర్చు పెట్టవలసి వస్తే ఇప్పుడు ఆ పనికి 5, 6 రూపాయలవరకు ఖర్చు పెట్టవలసి వస్తోంది. ఆటం వంటి పరిస్థితులలో అద్దెలు తగ్గివుచ్చేయి ఇంటియజమానులకు చాలా నష్టం వస్తుంది. కాబట్టి ముఖ్యంగా వర్తకం చేసుకోవటానికి కావలసిన యిండ్లకు Rent control వర్తింపకుండా చూడగోస్తాను.

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1 p.m.

“లంచగొండితనము హెచ్చుగా ఉన్నదని అందరకు తెలుసును. దానిని తగ్గించడం ఎవరికి సాధ్యం అవటంలేదు. దీనికి తోడు ఈ మధ్యన లంచం పుచ్చుకున్నవాడిని, ఇచ్చినవానిని ఒకేవిధంగా శిక్షించాలని ప్రభుత్వం వారు order pass చేసినట్లు తెలిసింది. ఇటువంటి order ల వల్ల లంచగొండితనము పెరిగిపోతుందే కాని తగ్గటంలేదు. ఈ మధ్యన ఒక పోలీసు దారుగారి మీద, గోపాల రెడ్డిగారు వచ్చినప్పుడు ఒక complaint ఇచ్చడం దీని కాని complaint చేసినవాని పైన కూడా action తీసుకొంటామని ఆనడం జరిగే ప్రకారం prove చేయబడలేదు. కాబట్టి ఇటువంటి order లు pass చేయవద్దని ప్రభుత్వం వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“Blackmarket ఎక్కడగా ఉన్నదని అందరూ అంటున్నారు. Black-market ఎల్లా తగ్గించగలరో నాకు అర్థమవుట లేదు. లంచగొండితనమును నిర్మూలించడానికిగాను, లంచము ఇచ్చినవారిని, పుచ్చుకొనినవానిని కూడా శిక్షించదలచినట్లు blackmarket లో ఆమ్మివారిని కొన్నవారిని కూడా శిక్షిస్తామని ప్రభుత్వం వారు order pass చేసినట్లు యితే blackmarket తగ్గుతుందేమో ప్రభుత్వం వారు ఆలోచిస్తే బాగుంటుంది.

“రాజకీయ చాధితులకు భూములివ్వడం విషయంలో చాలా అన్యాయం జరుగుతోందా? ప్రజలు అనుకుంటున్నారు. భవనమంతలకు, గట్టిగా చూట్టాడేవారికి కుందుగా భూములు లంచబడుతున్నాయి కాని ఇతరులకు భూమి assign కియ్యబడటం లేదు.”

AN HON. MEMBER :—“మీకు భూమి ఇచ్చారా?”

SRI N. VENKATACHALA MAJI :—“నేను రాజకీయచాధితుడనుకాను.

“ఈ మధ్య ఒక తాలూకాకు చెందిన రాజకీయచాధితులకు మరొక తాలూకాలో భూములు ఇవ్వవచ్చునని ప్రభుత్వం వారు ఒక G.O. pass చేశారు. (G.O. No. 15334/11—6—49) ఒక తాలూకా నానికి మరొక తాలూకాలో భూములు లెక్కటానికి నాకు ఎటువంటి అభ్యంతరము లేదుకాని ఆ తాలూకాకు చెందిన రాజకీయచాధితులు కోరిన భూములు కాకుండా మాత్రము చూడ గోరైనవి. కొన్నిచోట్ల ఒకే భూమికి ఇద్దరు, ముగ్గురు దరఖాస్తులు పెడితే మొదట apply చేసినవానికి కాకుండా రెండవ వానికిగాని, మూడవవానికిగాని ఆ భూమి ఇస్తున్నారు. ఇది అన్యాయముకాదని నా అభిప్రాయము. మొట్టమొదట ఎవరు apply చేశారో వారికి ఆ భూమి వచ్చించేటట్లు ఉత్తర్వులు ఇప్పించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వం వారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లా తరుగుజిల్లా మా జిల్లాలో రెండు, మూడు పెద్ద నదులు ఉన్నవి. వాటికి అనకట్టలు కట్టినట్లయితే మా జిల్లా ఇతర జిల్లాలమీద ఆధారపడవలసిన అవస్థ రిద్ద ఉండదు. కాని ఈ అనకట్టలు కట్టటానికి ఎటువంటి ప్రయత్నాలు జరగటం లేదు. అంతేకాకుండా ఈ సంవత్సరం 260 లక్షల రూపాయలు ఇతర irrigation పనులకు బడ్జెటులో చూపించారు. కాని మా విశాఖపట్టణం జిల్లాలో ఏదైనా పనులు ఈ గజెంట్లో లేదో తెలియదు. ప్రతి సంవత్సరం ఎవో పనులు చేస్తామని budget లో estimate లు చూపిస్తారు. కాని సంవత్సరం అఖరున కనుక చూపినట్లయితే ఏమీ ఖర్చు చేసినట్లు కనిపించదు.

“ఇదేవిధంగా ఇతర విషయాలగురించి కూడా అంధదేవులలోని పనులు అశ్రద్ధ చేయడం జరుగుతున్నాయని ప్రజలు అనుకుంటున్నారు. దాహారణంగా ఒక విషయం మనవి చేస్తాను. మా జిల్లాలోని నాతివలన bridge ని Highways department వారు చాలా కాలం నుంచి బాగుచేయవలసిన అంతున్నారు. ప్రతి సంవత్సరం బడ్జెటులో కొంత డబ్బు కేటాయించినట్లు చూపిస్తారు. కాని ఏమీ ఖర్చుచేయబడినట్లులేదు. 1946

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వ సంవత్సరంలో 10 లక్షల estimate చేశారు. 1947 లో 5 లక్షలు, 1948 వ సంవత్సరంలో 250 వేల లక్షలలో కేటా ఎంచారు కాని విమర్శనకుడా అప్పు పెట్టబడటం లేదు. ఇం చాలా శోధనీయంగా ఉన్నది.

“ఇదేవిధంగా ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ లోని పురుషుల ఆశ్రయ చేయబడుతున్నాయి. టు వంటి సిద్ధాంతము చేయబడకుండా ఉండేటందుకొగానే మేము ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రం కోరి నాము. ఆంధ్రుల దురిదృష్టవశాత్తు ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రం రాలేదు. అంతేకాకుండా సె. రోజుల క్రితము Tamilnad Political Conference జరిగిన నాటినుంచి ఆంధ్రులకు మద్రాసు లోను ఇతరచోట్ల అవమానించడం జరుగుతోంది. బహుశకు వెళ్లి పట్టకొనే చోట కూడా ఈ అవమానం కనిపిస్తోంది. ఈ మధ్య ఒక తెలుగువాడు ఒక మకాంధర్ల పండ్లు కొనటానికి వెళ్లి వండ్లు బేరించేస్తుంటే వండు రూ. 0-2-6 ఉండేదానిని, ఆ మకాంధారు రూ. 0-4-0 చెలితే, అదేమయ్యా రూ. 0-2-6 ఇవ్వవా అని అడిగితే “పళ్ల వెళ్లక్కవా” అని అవమానించేయడంయ్యాడు. బహుశక ఈ అరచ అవమానం ఆరంభం “పట్ల కడుక్కొనిరా” అని అనుకొంటాను.

“అంతేకాకుండా మన గౌ. ఆర్థిక వంటివారు కూడా panchayat bill ప్రకారం, ఆంధ్రులకు ఎక్కువ పట్టు యివ్వవలసివస్తుందని, అంటున్నారు. ఇటువంటి బేధాభిప్రాయాలు ఉండేస్తూ ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రము వేరైపోతేనే మంచిదని నా అభిప్రాయము.”

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister has said that the sales tax is a veritable *Kamadenu* and it is yielding very satisfactory income on account of the tightening up of the administration and increase in business transactions. Sir, he has used the word tightening up not only in the Budget speech but also on two or three occasions in the Budget memorandum. I believe he is also responsible for the preparation of the Budget memorandum. (Interruption.) The Government as a whole are responsible for the contents of the Budget memorandum. (Hon. the Finance Minister: ‘Oh, yes.’) My Friend asks me to offer constructive criticisms. It is in that spirit I offer my criticism and I hope and pray my hon. Friend will take it in that light.

“I perceive, so far as my district is concerned, that the levy of sales tax on what are known as commission agents, is not fair. I brought this to the notice of the Hon. the Finance Minister in connexion with some interpellations put by my hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, in July 1948. I pursued the matter again in November 1948, because of our interest in this subject. To put it in a concise manner, the position in Bellary district is this. The commission agents in Adoni town, about sixty in number, contended that they are not liable to pay the sales tax on their commission business. They put up a civil suit in the District Court. It was transferred to the Munsif Court. They proceeded with the suit in the Munsif's Court and got a decree in their favour. Then the Government preferred an appeal in the District Court and their appeal was dismissed. Then finally the Government preferred an appeal to the High Court. The High Court delivered judgment last Monday holding that the levy of the sales tax on commission agents is illegal and *ultra*

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vires. Therefore in all the cases from whom the sales tax had been levied and collected finally, the Government have illegally collected. That is the position on the civil side, as far as Adoni town is concerned. I hope my hon. Friend is in possession of all these facts. This will materially affect the income from sales tax that he is going to get in the next year. (Interruption.) In Bellary subdivision, in Bellary town in particular, the Commercial Tax Officer took action on the criminal side. He put up a large number of criminal complaints against merchants for carrying on what is known as commission business. There, the magistrate—a very stringent man—according to the instructions of the Government, said ‘If you admit it, that you are guilty and pay the sales tax at once, I will send you off with a light fine, but if you go on contesting the validity of the tax, I will impose a heavy fine’. Sir, the poor commission agents of Bellary had no other alternative left but to plead guilty and then pay the sales tax under what I may say, judicial intimidation, plus a fine of 5 to 10 rupees.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Is it after the separation of the judiciary.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“Both the Hon. the Finance Minister and Hon. Sri Madhava Menon should reply.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Is it after the separation of the judiciary from the executive.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“These were pending even before. Now, Sir, we have got Munsif-Magistrate in Bellary as well as in Adoni after the separation of the judiciary from the executive. In Adoni the Magistrate has got 45 criminal cases relating to non-payment of sales tax which are coming up for trial on the 8th.

1-15 P.M. “Should he not take cognizance of the objection that the High Court has held on the 26th February that the imposition and levy of sales tax on commission agents is illegal? In December 1947 a provision was enacted which is now incorporated as section 16-A. That shows us the absurdity of putting administration of criminal justice as well as civil administration into two water-tight compartments. Section 16-A says—

‘16-A. The validity of the assessment of any tax, or of the levy of any fee or other amount, made under this Act, or the liability of any person to pay any tax, fee or other amount so assessed or levied shall not be questioned in any criminal Court in any prosecution or other proceeding, whether under this Act or otherwise.’

The magistrate sits on the criminal side and 42 criminal cases come up before him. The parties say that the High Court had held that they were not liable to taxation under the Sales Tax Act. But the magistrate says that he could not take cognizance of it. Could he say that? On the next day he sits on the civil side and tries these cases, the cases of the same people from whom the Government are collecting the sales tax. If he exercises judicial discretion and decrees the suits, what will the common man represented by the hon. Member Dr. John think

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of this inconsistency and incongruity? I would ask my Hon. Friend, Mr. Madhava Menon to think of the situation created by having put in this provision barring the criminal court from entertaining any objection with regard to the validity or otherwise of the imposition of the sales tax. Would it not be ludicrous for the same man sitting as a Magistrate to say, 'The Commercial Tax Officer has lodged a complaint against you. I cannot decide about the validity or otherwise of the imposition of the tax. Sitting as a criminal court, I will not entertain any plea like that. If you plead guilty, I will impose a nominal fine of Rs. 10. Otherwise I will fine you heavily.' "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" If that were so, it was open to the parties to apply for a transfer of the case. I raise a point of order, Mr. Deputy Chairman. My Friend must make himself responsible for the statement he is making. He says that the Magistrate intimidated the accused and said that if they pleaded guilty he would fine them less, and if they did not plead guilty he would fine them more. In such circumstances, it was open to the accused, before the case is taken up, to apply for a transfer of the case to a higher court. Sir, the Magistrate cannot come here and defend himself against the statements made by my hon. Friend. If my Friend takes responsibility for the statement he has made, we may take action against the Magistrate, because I cannot conceive of any Judge or Magistrate intimidating the accused to plead guilty or not guilty. My hon. Friend says that the High Court decision was pointed out to the Magistrate who said that he did not care for the High Court judgment and that he was not bound by it. If so, it is a clear case of contempt of court. Therefore, if my hon. Friend will give a sworn statement or affidavit with regard to this contempt of court shown by a Magistrate, action will be taken about it. Sir, we are all safe in anything we say here in this House, because we have the privilege to say that. But is it fair, I ask, on a point of order, to say that such and such a Magistrate did this? If my hon. Friend is prepared to take responsibility for his statement and give a sworn statement to me, action will be taken. Otherwise it is not fair to say of a Magistrate who is not here to defend himself, that he intimidated an accused. In such circumstances, is it not open to the accused to have his case transferred?"

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" My Hon. Friend has not understood me. This happened in Bellary on 31st March 1948 when the Magistrate was disposing of the cases. It was the last day of the financial year. This section was in operation then. By that time, the Munsif had decreed and appeals preferred by Government were pending before the District Judge. It was a time when I could not refer to the High Court Judgment, which was passed only last week. It was in the second appeal against the judgment of the District Court that the High Court held on the 26th February of this year that the levy of sales tax on the commission agents is illegal. I could not have referred to the High Court judgment to that Magistrate. The judgment was delivered afterwards. There was only the Munsif's judgment. I sent one of my juniors and

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there was no use of applying for a transfer. There was section 16-A against the merchants and I could not plead the invalidity of the sales tax. I cannot say that the Magistrate was in any way wrong except for using language and disposing of business quickly. I do not think he could have entertained any objection about the validity of the tax or otherwise. There was no use in asking for a transfer because the cases would be disposed off that day.

“Leave aside what happened before. Now what are the instructions which the Government are going to give for the future? Now the same gentlemen both in Bellary and Adoni, the munsif-magistrates have got criminal cases and suits of the nature referred to above and the District Judge has got 15 appeals preferred by the Government. They were the cases in which the munsif has decreed that the levy of the sales tax is improper and illegal. It was decreed against the Government. It was a sorry spectacle for me to witness in the court, for the Government taking time after time for depositing the amount, applying for stay of execution to the District Judge and so on. Fifteen such appeals are pending in the District Court. The District Judge has also to dispose off appeals against convictions in which the fines are Rs. 51 and more. Is it not an anomalous position of great contradiction and incongruity? What are the instructions which are going to be given to the Magistrates? I offer constructive criticism, Sir. Is it not fair and proper for the Government after getting the verdict of the High Court that their action is wrong, to instruct the Commercial Tax Officer to withdraw all these criminal cases?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The commission agents are not all of the same variety. The general rule is that commission agents are not to be taxed. But the facts in each case may be different. Some may pose as commission agents but be actually dealers. That is a matter for the Commercial Tax Officer to go into. It is for the Court to decide whether it is actually a dealer's transaction or a commission agent's transaction. All commission agents cannot be classed as one variety. There are people and people.”

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—“There may be slight differences, but the essential characteristics of the business of commission agents either in Adoni or Bellary or other places are the same. We have got experience of 40 years of such business. So far as Adoni is concerned, each merchant has got his account books printed in a certain style. These merchants were prosecuted on the criminal side and they have filed civil suits and got decrees in their favour. I only ask my friend why these munsif-magistrates should play the part of Dr. Jekyll and decree the suits on the civil side in their favour and then play the part of Mr. Hyde and convict them on the other side. I am helpless in view of section 16-A. It does not redound to the credit of the administration of the sales tax department. We become unpopular, not the Ministers. The people ask us why we pass such laws by which in criminal cases we could raise no objection and the Magistrate could not but

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convict, while on the civil side it is different. 'Is the law an ass?', was the question put to me by one of the merchants? I only offer constructive criticism and I request my Hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi to take it in that light. I think, Sir, it is better he issues instructions urgently to withdraw these criminal cases in Adoni where it has been held that these gentlemen are not liable to taxation under the General Sales Tax Act."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" We would then be interfering with the discretion of the law courts."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" The local officers themselves have seen the judgments of the High Court. Why should they go on with the prosecutions in spite of this? If this is done by a private gentleman, the Magistrate can take cognizance of the judgment and discharge the accused and probably even award compensation for making a false complaint. But here, the Commercial Tax Officer goes on with the prosecution under instructions of the Government. Sir, this tightening-up business which is referred to in the budget speech is not at all happy. The sales tax is not being worked in a proper and just manner . . ."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the hon. Member please expand his criticism that the sales tax administration is not good? "

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" That may be left to the hon. Member himself. How long will the hon. Member take to finish his speech? He has taken half an hour already."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" With regard to another aspect of the sales tax, I want fifteen minutes. There are two other points for which I would require half an hour. Altogether I would require three-quarters of an hour more."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I request that Mr. Bhima Rao may be given sufficient time to criticise the Government." (Laughter.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" But other Members will be deprived of an opportunity to speak."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" We have got four days and Mr. Bhima Rao may be given two hours for his speech."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Member (Mr. Bhima Rao) may continue his speech after lunch."

The House adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I was adverting before we adjourned to certain anomalies in the levy of the sales tax, and it is not my idea to indulge in any carping or mala fide criticism. I request my friends to take it in the proper light; I only make an appeal on behalf of those in my district and probably in other districts also who are affected by these anomalies

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in the levy of the sales tax. Let my appeal be not and let my criticism be not misunderstood by the Members of the Treasury Bench.

“ One more anomaly in the levy of the sales tax I may be permitted to bring to the notice of the Hon. Finance Minister. That was brought out by a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao last Monday relating to the levy of sales tax for the first time. In the case of handloom cloth manufactured in the town of Rayadrug which is only three miles distant from the Mysore border. These handloom cloths are produced for the use of the poorer people in the Mysore State; dealers coming from the Mysore State give orders, pay the money and generally the practice as I know is for the sellers to make arrangements, to engage carts or lorries and to cause the delivery to be effected in the Mysore State. Till January of this year, nobody thought of levying sales tax on such handloom cloths. As the Hon. Finance Minister is aware, the handloom industry itself is in the throes of distress and he has admitted that fact in the course of his budget speech. After not taking any action for so many years, i.e., for 11 years, for the first time now the Deputy Commercial Tax Officer in charge of that area has thought of imposing the sales tax on sales of handloom cloth effected in the town of Rayadrug for which arrangements for delivery in the Mysore State were made by the sellers. That information probably seems to have been conveyed to Mr. Suryanarayana Rao and he put in an interpellation. According to the new Constitution, Articles 301 to 303 state that inter-State commerce and trade should be free of taxation. That is the idea. My friend has quoted extracts from Article 286 of the Constitution Act. That would also show that the idea is that inter-State trade and commerce should be free of taxation. There is one clause in it which my learned friend wants to take advantage of, i.e., Article 286 (2) which says—

‘ Provided that the President may by order direct that any tax on the sale or purchase of goods which was being lawfully levied by the Government of any State immediately before the commencement of this Constitution shall notwithstanding that the imposition of such tax is contrary to the provisions of this clause, continue to be levied until the thirty-first day of March 1951.’

I respectfully emphasize the expression ‘ which was being lawfully levied ’. Till now, nobody thought of levying such a tax; but a week before the Republic came into existence, before the President was installed as such, the ingenuity of the Deputy Commercial Tax Officer in charge of that town made him think of some means of augmenting the sales tax, and he levied it on these goods for the first time. Is it not doing violence to this language in the Constitution to say that you were doing it before the Constitution came into existence and that the President has subsequently within a week or three days, sent in a communication that as it ‘ was being lawfully levied ’ it might continue? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Sir, the new amendment to the General Sales Tax came into force on the 1st January 1948; it was passed in 1947 and it came into force only on the 1st January 1948. Under the provisions of that Act, the Deputy Commercial Tax Officer must have been levying sales tax in 1948

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and 1949 also; it may be that for one year he overlooked the amendment—I do not know for certain—but if he did, it was a serious thing and we will have to take drastic disciplinary action against the officer if he really did not collect any sales tax in the year 1948 and 1949; and if he collected it only on the eve of the Independence, it was certainly lawful for him to collect the tax. But he ought to have done it in 1948 itself, and simply because he did not do so in 1948 or 1949, it does not mean that he ought not to have done it in 1950."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" My Hon. Friend the Finance Minister is also an able lawyer, Sir. (Laughter.) The expression here is ' which was being lawfully levied '. In this case it was not being levied. My friend Mr. Venkatachalamaji made a speech in Telugu and unfortunately most members could not follow it. He said that in Vizianagaram a large quantity of jute was being taken all the way—about Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 lakhs worth of jute—to Calcutta without the payment of any sales tax."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I am sorry to interrupt, Sir; but I won't be able to answer these points at the end in the course of my reply and so I may as well reply to this point even now. Jute has been given a special concession in the Act itself because of the trouble in Pakistan; it is exempted from sales tax, and that is why it is not being taxed under the Act."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I stand corrected, Sir. In small matters like this where for the first time the tax is being levied, it is better to give it up, especially in view of the fact that in the course of a few months or at the utmost one year, we must have a free inter-State trade and commerce. That is why I appeal to the Hon. Finance Minister, that some consideration should be shown to all these handloom weavers in the weaving centres which are only three or four miles from the Mysore or Hyderabad State and also from the Bombay State. These clothes and sarees are woven and worn by the poorer classes and hitherto no sales tax was being levied on them; and by levying it now for the first time, you only kill the handloom industry altogether. That is my submission, and I think it is better to drop this levy. After all, the Hon. Finance Minister wants constructive criticism to the end how to augment the State's revenues; and my suggestion is that in such cases where the amounts are small and where the practice for so many years is that there has been no taxation, there should be no levy at all. I appeal to the Hon. Finance Minister to see that this industry which is in distress and is likely to be extinguished unless encouraged, is not taxed in this fashion, and I appeal to him to issue instructions not to levy this tax in the future."

" Then, Sir, so far as the budget is concerned, it does not in any way enthruse the people of my district. There is absolutely not one pie provided for in this budget for my district. It is very unfortunate, it is cruelly neglected both by my Friend Dr. Rajan and by my Friend Mr. Madhava Menon, as well as by my Friend

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the Hon. the Finance Minister. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi : 'Not by me.') You are only interested in getting your pocket-money from my district, but not in spending it in my district. Sir, I know that on account of the unfortunate cleavage in my district, over this Andhra-Karnataka question, the legitimate interests of my district would be neglected. The needs of my district are : firstly the establishment of a college there. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon : 'There is the Tungabhadra Project in your district going on, costing so many crores.') May be, but it goes right up to the Nellore district. When the Upper Canal is opened, it will serve not only my district but the district of my Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi, it goes finally to his district. Anyhow, I think you need not take credit for the inauguration of the Tungabhadra Project, because it was inaugurated during the Advisers' regime, and it is now going on.

2-45
i.m. " Then, Sir, the other provisions in the present budget are for having some dispensaries and some nurses' quarters in places where we have got these hospitals. Sir, my Hon. Friend, Dr. Rajan, was rather laughing at me when I referred to these things, but he does not know the fact that there is a tuberculosis sanatorium in Bellary, called the Wellesley Sanatorium, in which there are 210 beds for patients suffering from tuberculosis. I think it contains the highest number of beds, compared with the other hospitals in the whole Province. Sir, one day I was in the Assembly, I think last month, where one Member asked the Hon. Dr. Rajan about the number of T.B. hospitals and in reply he mentioned places where treatment for tuberculosis is given, namely, Perundurai and such other places, but he did not refer to this hospital in Bellary."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I did not mention it because it was till recently under the control of the jail authorities and it was under the Health Department and I knew nothing about it."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Though I appealed to him several times to come to Bellary, he has not come. Then he would have known the necessities and requirements of Bellary. There we have got 210 beds as I have stated. I do not know why unfortunately tuberculosis is now on the increase in spite of all the modern appliances. Again there is no water-supply till 9 in the morning in that hospital. On many occasions when I had to go there in the mornings I used to find patients taking coffee without washing their faces. It is really an awful thing. I often tried to bring it to the attention of the Hon. Mr. Shetty and he asked me to put it in writing and I actually put it in writing. There is only a well there and a tank has to be constructed for supplying water to the sanatorium and it would not after all cost more than Rs. 30,000 or so. Again there are no nurses' quarters nearby and the nurses have to come from a distance of about one or one and a half miles on foot and you can imagine how it is possible for these nurses to come from such a distance and particularly in the heat of Bellary, it is impossible for nurses to go to the hospital

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even with umbrellas. Last year I brought it to the notice of this Council. Probably my Hon. Friend Dr. Rajan has forgotten the fact that I appealed to him to make provision for water-supply to this hospital. I sent my request on the 14th of January this year just to remind him about the urgent necessity of water-supply and the reply I got was : 'With reference to the suggestion contained in the letter, I may invite your attention to Government's letter so and so of September 1949. As stated therein, Government deferred the construction of quarters for nurses in the Wellesley Sanatorium, Bellary, on account of the high cost involved. The question of constructing quarters for nurses, etc., will, however, be considered in connexion with the budget for 1951-52. As regards the provision of water-supply to the sanatorium I am to state that the matter is under the consideration of the Government.' Sir, this is the reply that got. Of course, I do not object to their spending lakhs of rupees for the Mangalore Hospital or any such thing. I think if they were to construct such a hospital as the Wellesley Sanatorium, which was built by the East India Company in 1850 or so, it would have cost them nearly Rs. 5 to 10 lakhs. We have got the buildings and we have got other facilities, but the patients are denied even the ordinary water-supply and people have to wait till 9 o'clock for getting water. I, therefore, appeal to my Hon Friend, Dr. Rajan, to listen to me now and at least now devise some means of providing Rs. 50,000 for water-supply for the immediate needs of those patients who suffer from this fell disease of tuberculosis from which there is absolutely no recovery so far as I can see. Every time I went there I used to find two or three beds empty. I think my Hon. Friend must have some more sympathy for those who suffer and make provision.

"I may mention in this connexion that Dr. Veeraswami has established a sanatorium and has provided quarters for relations of patients to remain there—of course they are paying patients—and all the facilities including water-supply are there. I hope my hon. Friend will not mistake me for any ulterior motive when I make this suggestion. Once again I appeal to him, before the Budget is finally passed, to make provision for water-supply to the Wellesley Sanatorium.

"Next, Sir, I come to the question of establishment of a college in Bellary. There is the Veerasaiva College there, but affiliation of that college was withdrawn by the University last year. The hon. Lady member, Mona Hensman and the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon, the Pro-Chancellor of the Madras University are also aware of it. The University was intimated in December 1948 as follows :—

'We cannot go on with this Veerasaiva college ; you may make your own arrangements.'

Then I appealed to the Government and they wanted us to find 2,25,000 rupees and that they would give half the cost of construction but they were unwilling to spend an equal amount from their own Educational funds. What is the use of saying like this when they are not prepared to construct buildings and continue

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the college? Sir, last year admissions were not made in the junior Intermediate class but only the senior Intermediate class is going on there. If it is abolished there will be no college for Bellary. I may say that it will then be the only district in the whole of the Madras State where there will be no college. As early as 1917, i.e., 33 years ago the Calcutta University Commission reported that every district should have a college. Even in the first Budget speech in March 1947-48 the objective of my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, was that every district should have a college. I do not like to take much time because there are other speakers, but I would like only to refer to the Resolution of the Syndicate in this connexion. It was subject No. 202 of the meeting held in May 1949. Their final opinion will be found at page 630, which is as follows :—

‘ The Syndicate is finally of the opinion that in order to provide a suitable college in Bellary, which is undoubtedly a great need, the better course is for the Government to take over the management of this college and run it as a Government institution and would strongly advise the Government to do so.’

I hope my hon. sister, Mona Hensman will also support me in this.”

Mrs. M. HENSMAN :—“ Deputy Chairman, Sir, on a point of explanation. There is a big history behind this. We were not able to fulfil the promises not because of lack of interest but because of lack of finance and every University has to have its standard and if Government were to take it up and implement it, it would certainly help my hon. Friend on the opposite side.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Why should the University go out of their way and advise the Government? ”

Mrs. M. HENSMAN :—“ Coming as it does from the University it was only a suggestion made by another body for the Government to take it up and continue it. That was how it arose.”

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ I do not like to read the whole resolution, but I would only refer to the final conclusion of the Syndicate. They knew the way in which the Veerasaiva College authorities were acting and so the Syndicate gave it as their final and correct opinion. It is only recommendatory. After all they are prepared to give two lakhs and twenty-five thousand rupees to the Veerasaiva College authorities. My only appeal is why not give Rs. 30,000 to me as the Trustee and give us the buildings we want. Now there are several officers in occupation of very big buildings and those buildings were occupied in olden days by civilian Judges. It is not necessary now that they should be occupied by these people now. As a matter of fact, one such building will accommodate the college and hostel and if they are prepared to give me Rs. 25,000 a year and a set of good professors I will run the college. I will account for every pie of it. I do not want any more than Rs. 25,000 and if any excess amount is required I shall bear it myself. In spite of my appeal they are not able to accept my request and come forward with construction. Of course, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranga Reddi—he is absent now—has been able to secure 8 lakhs and this year I find a provision of 3 lakhs in the

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Budget; they are fortunate, I do not envy them and I am also glad that my neighbouring district, Cuddapah gets it. My point is only when you are giving something to Cuddapah why not give this small amount to my district? Of course, they may ask why could you not raise the necessary funds and establish it yourselves? (Interruption by the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon:) I do not follow the humorous remarks of my Hon. Friend. The difficulty is if we were all unanimous we could have established the college without asking a pie from the Government. You are aware, Sir, the Andhras are divided into two sections, the Karnatakas into three sections and then the Muslims who form one-third of the population are considering which side they should join. My Hon. Friends, Mr. Bhaktavatsalam and Gopala Reddi when they came there the Muslims said whichever side was powerful they would join that side. The leader of the Muslim section said so point blank. That is the position."

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Who is the gentleman who said that? "

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Mr. Abdul Razack, ex-Chairman of the Municipality. That is why nothing could be done. Whether Bellary goes to Karnataka or Andhra or whether it is partitioned or not, for the present it must have a college. Now there are 2,000 students going up for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination from my district and at least 500 of them may come out successful this year and I do not know where they will go for continuing higher studies. It is a distressing problem for the 3 p.m. students and I therefore appeal to my Hon. Friend, Mr. Madhava Menon and also Mr. Gopala Reddi to take a sympathetic view and give some suitable accommodation that is by giving the building now occupied by Mr. Ray which my Hon. Friend knows and if this building is handed over it will locate the college as well as the hostel. They can secure equipment from the Veerasaiva College. They have given them 75,000 rupees for the equipment. Pay them also for the building and requisition the property. Sir, if there is a mind and a will they can do it. So I appeal to both the Ministers to treat the matter with sympathy and give us some help.

" Then, Sir, the only other subject which I want to deal and which is closely associated with this subject is the continuance of the communal Government Order with regard to admission to colleges and other matters. As I said, Sir, there might be five hundred students who might come out successful in the coming S.S.L.C. examination and they might belong to one particular majority community. In getting admission to college it is a matter of great difficulty. I think the spirit of the present Constitution, which has come into force from the 26th January last is to the effect that there should be absolutely no distinction or discrimination. I do not know when the Prime Minister has made that declaration, I found, all on a sudden in the papers the Chief Secretary to this Government making an explanation to the effect that this Constitution Act will not affect the operation of the Communal Government Order both with regard to public services

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as well as admission to colleges, and that it will continue as before. I do not know why he should have been made the mouthpiece of this declaration."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"He was attending a committee at Delhi held by Mr. Diwakar, and it is in connection with that he made that declaration."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"Whatever it may be, Sir, after all I am only a humble mufassal lawyer, and I have also studied the Constitution Act to the best of my ability within the short time at my command, and I believe, Sir, this communal distinction must disappear hereafter both with respect to the public services and admission to colleges except in the case of the backward classes. I want the Ministry as a body to consider this and mention in their reply on the 9th instant, when, they are going to reply, whoever, whether it is their intention to continue this Communal Government Order or abrogate it altogether, so that those students who want to seek admission may know their position and adjust themselves to new circumstances. That is better instead of putting them off till June and then be told 'we will not admit you' and they coming back with a sense of frustration writ large in their faces. Let them adjust themselves even now. That is my appeal to Government. I find there is so much of intellect left without employment. Really I am dead against this Communalism, and what is being done in the name of Communalism. We hear every day everyone declaring that he is against Communalism. So I appeal to the Leader of the House and the Chief Minister to consider this and make a statement on the 9th instant whether they intend continuing the Communal Government Order or abrogate it.

"There is one more point, and that is also constructive criticism; but I do not know how my friends would take it. Now we have the Fisheries Department. I do not know whether it is not a wasteful expenditure of money in my district. I do not know why my friend, Mr. Anantaraman should be appointed as the Director of Fisheries. In fact there is no need for a Director. He is a square man in a round hole. He is a versatile gentleman, a very active gentleman and a very intelligent gentleman. We in Bellary district are grateful to him for making necessary preparation to defend the district from the incursions of the Razakars and making our position secure. We are all indebted to him as well as to Mr. Parthasarathi, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police. But this appointment of Director of Fisheries is not one in the interest of the State, as also the establishment of one officer of that department in each district. In Bellary district, there is no fish, except in the Tungabhadra river, where people catch and eat fish. There is a District Superintendent of Fisheries there. I do not know what his task is. Then there is the official paraphernalia attached to him. It is all a waste. So, may I recommend the abolition of this Fisheries Department altogether?

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"Then, I want to make another constructive criticism. I think, Government may require some more money during the course of this year. Why not have a taxation on agricultural income on those who own three hundred acres and more in my district. At present the average income of three hundred acres of land in my district is about Rs. 7,500. When Government impose an income-tax on three thousand rupees income and above, why not they levy an agricultural income-tax on Rs. 7,500 and above? Of course it will affect certain people. But they can very easily pay that tax. Government can do this instead of increasing the rate of sales-tax, which is no doubt a Kamadhenu, but it should not be unduly done, as it may be affected with tuberculosis (laughter). I remember there was a bill for the levy of agricultural income-tax contemplated in 1946. I request Government to bring that measure and pass it. Sir, I have taken much time and I close my speech requesting the Ministers concerned to do justice to my district with regard to medical institutions as well as college."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"Sir, I shall begin by stating that I have no doubt whatsoever that any criticism of mine has to be taken as constructive criticism, and so I do not want to say at every point that this is a constructive criticism. (Laughter.) First of all, I fully sympathize with the Hon. Finance Minister in his feeling that he has not received as much congratulation as he deserves when this budget was presented. There is some foundation for that feeling. I shall begin by saying that I congratulate him upon certain points, and at the same time I shall pursue the discussion further and intermingle it with certain criticism, of course, constructive, so that one may be able to see whether after all, it will not tend to advance the interest of the Ministry as well as the interest of the population. The first point upon which the Hon. Finance Minister deserves congratulation is that there is no proposal for any additional taxation in this budget. I was reading the budget speech day before yesterday with a friend of mine, and I sincerely expressed to him that this is a matter on which we have to congratulate ourselves; upon which my friend asked, 'can you think of any other source of revenue which has not been exhausted?' But I say if the Hon. Finance Minister, or the Cabinet, if so minded, can conceive of any additional source of taxation."

"The second thing about which I wish to congratulate him is that so far, he has promised in his speech, or rather used guarded language, about the remission or postponement of collection of land revenue to the extent of 70 lakhs. I was a little diffident when the word 'postponement' was included along with remission. What will be the percentage of actual remission and what will be the percentage of postponement is not given. Postponement of collection of revenue is not of much relief; remission alone will give relief. Perhaps when the budget speech was written it would have been impossible for the Hon. Finance Minister, depending as he should do upon the reports of the

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Collectors of several districts, to say, how much he would have to remit in entirety and how much to postpone. I shall say with regard to Tanjore district, there is some hope of relief, as can be seen from the Collector's remarks that some portions of the district in Vedaranyam and Tirutturaippundi would get some relief by way of remission. But there are several other portions also in Tanjore district which have suffered from the failure of the north-east monsoon. Therefore I would suggest, as was suggested by a Tanjore member in the Assembly, that Government may think fit to grant a lump sum to the Collector of the district, and ask him to distribute it in the several areas which require remission. It is a good suggestion and I request it may be adopted.

3-15
p.m.

"I hasten to answer the Hon. Minister's interjection 'What do you say about Agricultural income-tax?'"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I am only drawing attention to the suggestion made by Sri B. Bhima Rao."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"I heartily oppose it. Tanjore will be seriously affected by it. I am glad that the Government have not adopted this measure and therefore there is no point in pursuing it further. We are not answering the remarks of each other but we are only offering criticism on the budget proposals.

"There is another matter on which we could congratulate ourselves. In spite of so many bad seasons from 1947 onwards and in spite of the cyclone havoc in the Andhra Districts and the failure of monsoon in the southern districts this year and many other adverse circumstances, the Hon. Finance Minister has found his way to provide the very decent sum of 26 crores of rupees for nation-building purposes including among them education, medical relief, public health, irrigation works, agriculture, veterinary service, co-operation and industries. On a comparative study of the allotment made for each of these items, I find that agriculture, which is the staple industry and the mainstay of the people of this State, has not been allotted the requisite amount. The allotment for agriculture is considerably less than in previous years and 53 lakhs less than last year."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Besides this, there is the provision for purchase of tractors."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"Purchase of tractors also has been delayed according to the speech of the Hon. Minister. By an equitable distribution of the total allotment, some more provision could have been made for agriculture, especially having regard to the present food situation.

"It is also a matter for congratulation that an addition has been made to the Revenue Reserve Fund after providing for the various items. These are certainly matters which every dispassionate critic of the budget must acknowledge and I ungrudgingly give credit to the Hon. Finance Minister for them. At the same time, I say that he might have gone further and either abolished

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or reduced to some extent some of the taxes. This question has to be viewed from three angles of vision. One is whether the state of affairs will not be better in the next year. The second is whether there will not be growing sources of income in the next year. Considered from these points of view, I think there is room for reduction of taxes. The third thing is that by a more stringent retrenchment in expenditure, I believe this deficit of 36 lakhs can be wiped out and the budget made a surplus one even after the abolition of certain taxes and the reduction of certain others. For evidence to support my statement, I need not go to any source except the Finance Minister's speech itself. The Hon. Finance Minister assigns importance to the revenue from electricity undertakings, and admits that the revenue from this source is steadily on the increase. The Government propose to nationalize all private electricity undertakings and they expect more revenue in the course of a few years.

"The General Sales-Tax has been a good source of revenue. Although the Hon. Finance Minister has his own objections to the Central Government interfering with this tax, the income from this source will not be in any way affected during the year 1950-51, as the President has issued an order authorizing the continuance of the tax wherever levied till the 31st March 1951."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"We have made allowance only for a small decline in revenue (Rs. 52 lakhs).

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"The deficit is only 36 lakhs.

"The nationalization of bus transport in Madras is yielding a profit. These are optimistic features and there is no ground for pessimism that our income will decline in future years. The Income-tax allocation to this State has been reduced from 18 to 17.5 per cent. I am unable to give the actual figures in lakhs. But the reduction is only half a per cent. Therefore I ask whether a small amount could not be taken from the Revenue Reserve Fund to wipe out the deficit of 36 lakhs. The Hon. Finance Minister says that even this deficit is on account of the excess of expenditure over revenue in respect of the merged States of Pudukottai, Banganapalle and Sandur, and he expects compensation from the Government of India."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"We are getting compensation."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—"So, even the deficit of 36 lakhs is wiped out. When that is the position, to a layman like me, to one who has not made a scientific study of finance and budgeting, it appears that there is scope for reducing the taxes if only the Government are so inclined.

"The Hon. Finance Minister rightly deplores the heavy taxation on motor vehicles. He says that our rates of tax on motor vehicles are the highest in the whole of India and possibly in the whole world. When that is the case, is it not the duty

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of the Government to reduce the tax at least to the extent of the enhancement introduced with effect from the 1st July 1949, if they cannot abolish the tax altogether?

“ Cannot the Government reduce the General Sales-tax levied on food and other essential commodities? The tax has been increased from 3 to 4½ pies per rupee. Cannot this increase of 1½ pies at least, if not the entire tax, be abolished? ”

“ I presume that all these aspects have certainly attracted the attention of the Hon. Finance Minister and I hope he will give some answer to my questions. ”

“ The Hon. Finance Minister takes exception to the Government of India interfering with the levy of General Sales Tax under Article 286 of the Constitution, and he, along with the Finance Ministers of other States, proposes to approach the Central Government with an appeal to desist from such interference. It is said that the Government of India propose to introduce legislation which will have the effect of exempting certain essential articles including foodgrains and textiles from sales-tax. Such a legislation will alleviate the suffering of poor consumers. When this State Government are not able to exempt the essential articles from sales-tax, it will be adding injury to injury if they stand in the way of the Central Government giving effect to their proposal. The Central Government's budget appeals to the common man. It gives some relief from taxation. ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ How does income-tax affect the common man? ”

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—“ What about the post card? The Central budget proposes to give reduction of tax in respect of eight items. I was not prepared for this kind of opposition by the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon and therefore I cannot mention the items off-hand. The relief afforded in some directions benefits not only the rich but also the poor people. In our budget, there is no relief from taxation. Only there has been no fresh taxation and the Hon. Finance Minister asks us not to expect any relief for some years to come. Is it not an affair over which we have to console ourselves with the remark ‘ God is great ’. (Janab K. Uppl: ‘ Allaho Akbar. ’) If the Government were so inclined, could they not have had a sympathetic eye on the consumers and conceived of means for reducing some at least of the taxes if they could not abolish them altogether? ”

“ The Hon. Finance Minister says that the Government have examined the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee from every point of view and that they have come to the conclusion that it is not possible to adopt all its proposals. The Committee made proposals whose adoption will reduce expenditure to the extent of four crores of rupees. ”

“ Now, Sir, I ask, ‘ was it not possible for the Government to adopt some more of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and effect retrenchment to the extent of another ”

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Rs. 50 lakhs in addition to what they have been able to effect already? ' The Government have effected retrenchment only to the extent of a crore of rupees.' "

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Is the hon. Member sure of his facts? "

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Sir, I have got the papers here, but I do not want to waste the time of the House by reading them as we do in courts.

" My point is, ' Has it been possible to find out ways and means of effecting retrenchment only to the extent of Rs. 50 lakhs? ' Of course, as Shakespeare says, ' Brutus is an Honourable man ', even so, I expect our Hon. Minister for Finance to consider this suggestion and give a reply at the end."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The reply will be that they have made every effort, but could not do anything more."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" The next point that I want to mention, in connexion with retrenchment, is the separation of the executive from the judiciary. Sir, the Director of Public Information is publishing from time to time several pamphlets on varied subjects besides the ' Madras Information '. On 26th January 1950, i.e., on the Indian Republic Day, the latest pamphlet was published, and therein a statement has been made that the system of the separation of judiciary from executive functions, which was considered at the time when the Hon. Mr. Bhashyam was the Law Minister, to be very costly, has actually proved to have resulted in a saving and a gain to the Government, in the districts in which they have been introduced, and if that is so, if that reform is extended to all other districts, the savings would be considerable. I therefore want to know why this suggestion could not be adopted and the reform of the separation of the judiciary from the executive extended to all other districts as well. Nothing has been said about this in the speech of the Hon. Minister for Finance. I hope that the whole Cabinet will take stock of these things and see that if they cannot effect any reduction in taxation at least they effect sufficient savings to wipe off the anticipated deficits of future year.

" Now, Sir, let me come to controls. At the beginning we had controls, but later on the Government of India said that we could have partial decontrol, but because the situation became worse, we again had to go back to controls. Therefore it is too much for us to say now that these controls must be abolished. Any discussion of that question would only be academic. But so far as the working of controls is concerned, I think a great deal of improvement could be effected, so as to lessen the rigours of control and at the same time effect a great deal of savings to the Government, if they exercise controls properly and proceed in the right direction. At present the controls are very unpopular and cause a great deal of harassment to the people, and especially to the ryots in the surplus districts. Some of us in the Tanjore district have been studying the working of controls in general and

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of our district in particular, and have been devoting a great deal of thought over the subject and we hold a conference among ourselves, discuss the working of these controls and formulate certain suggestions and proposals, which I have been directed to suggest to the Government on the floor of this House. Here is the statement that they have prepared; I do not want to read the whole of this statement, but I shall content myself with only referring to those important suggestions made by the Committee, for what they are worth. The Government of Madras could very well abolish these controls, because they know that they are most unpopular and oppressive, but as controls have become more or less the settled policy of the Central Government, the Provincial Government are afraid to recommend the abolition of these controls altogether. If the Government adopt some of the suggestions we have made here, they would certainly be able to effect a great deal of retrenchment in the procurement and distribution staff and at the same time effect considerable economy in the Government expenditure on the Civil Supplies Department. Our first suggestion is, that the Government should club certain surplus districts and certain deficit districts together, and thus avoid unnecessary administrative expenses over the staff, who are now doing the same work over and over again. They can authorise free transport within those clubbed districts. Take for instance, the Tanjore district which is a surplus district. Instead of having a surplus district as a single unit, the Government might as well club the Tanjore district with two or three deficit districts adjoining it. Then, it would be enough to appoint only one Special Officer for all these four districts to look after controls and dispense with the services of a number of other officers. A number of subordinate staff might also be retrenched, because the surplus foodgrains which are procured could be immediately sent to the deficit districts, and any extra staff, both in the ration offices and in the executive, could be sent away, and thereby a great deal of economy in expenditure could be effected.

“ Then there is another suggestion that I should like to make in this connexion, in regard to the system of rationing. Now the Government are issuing rations to people week by week. After all, we know that this system of controls and rationing is going to be in force for some years to come, and therefore there is no harm in issuing monthly rations or even quarterly rations at a time, instead of issuing weekly rations. What will be the result? A lot of work will be reduced in the district and taluk ration offices and there need not be so many checking and administrative staff. But, of course, care must be taken to see that persons who are supplied with three months' rations do not misuse them or sell them in black-market. If such a system is evolved, I think there will be considerable savings in expenditure, and such a system would surely lessen the hardships and difficulties and harassments which people are suffering, under the present arrangement.

“ Then again, Sir, there are a number of officers in the Civil Supplies Department, such as, District Supply Officers, officers in charge of rationing, procurement officers, distribution officers,

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officers in charge of movement of stocks, regional officers, etc. If some care is bestowed and the system improved, I think a good many of these officers who are more or less doing the same work over and over again, could be reduced and some savings effected thereby."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Just now, Sir, the Civil Supplies Department which is charged with procurement and rationing does not cost anything to Government, because the entire scheme is made self-supporting. There is very little administrative charge so far as the Civil Supplies Department is concerned, and therefore whatever retrenchment is made in this Department, it will not bring any additional money to the general coffers of the Government."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" I do not understand, Sir, the details of this scheme or the intricacies of that department, but seeing that there are a very large number of officers put in charge of this work, many of them doing little or no work, I thought that some retrenchment is possible and that it would help the Government."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" It will reduce the indirect taxation on the people."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Of course, it is quite right, Sir, that this will, to some extent, reduce the indirect taxation. That I understand. But I leave it to my hon. Friend Dr. John to deal with this aspect."

" Sir, I make these suggestions so that the Hon. Finance Minister may consider whether they would in any way be helpful to him in effecting retrenchment and thereby reducing the burden on the people and at the same time enabling him to make up the deficit in the budget. It is not as if I know everything about the detailed administration of the Civil Supplies Department, but I throw out these suggestions for what they are worth."

" Sir, let me, in this connexion, mention another thing that is happening in the Tanjore district, which is, as I said, a surplus district. Whenever you go to any railway station in that district, you will find huge stocks of rice stagnating in the station yards for months together, without being removed. In the Koradacheri station, in particular, I have seen thousands and thousands of bags of rice, lying in the railway sheds and on the open yards, exposed to sun and rain, for months together and it seems that no arrangements were made to remove them in time. The same is the case in a number of other railway stations also. No arrangements are probably made to move these stocks and if there is any rain, all these bags would get spoiled."

THE HON. SRI C. PERUMALSAMI REDDI :—" Waggon's are not available."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Should not the Government make arrangements with the railway authorities to see that sufficient number of wagons are supplied and that these stocks are cleared as and when they are brought to those railway stations, and thus

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avoid keeping these bags lying on the railway platforms? Why should these stocks be allowed to stagnate and get spoiled? Surely, it would not be impossible for the Government to move these stocks then and there, if they make some definite arrangements with the railway authorities."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. Chairman, can we have the presence of the Hon. Minister for Food so that he might have the benefit of the suggestions and criticisms of my hon. Friend Mr. K. Natarajan."

MR. CHAIRMAN (Dr. P. Srinivasan) :—" The Hon. Finance Minister is here and because this is only a general discussion on the budget, it is only proper that he should be here, to hear the criticisms of hon. members."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Sir, I am not very particular that he should be present here to hear what I say. These things, I am sure, will certainly be brought to his notice. It is not expected that every Minister should be present here and perhaps the Hon. Minister for Food may have excellent reasons to be absent from the House. But at the same time, Sir, I am not also very optimistic about the result of my suggestions and criticisms, even if he were here.

" Then Sir, let me come to sales tax."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I ask, Sir, why, when prominent members of the Congress Party are making suggestions and criticisms, the Government are not responding, and why should they be so pessimistic about themselves? Why should they not better leave those benches and come over to this side? "

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Sir, I can very well understand that Dr. John would be certainly happy, if we cross the floor of the House. He was rather enthusiastic in making the same suggestion, even before when certain hon. Members on this side, and especially my hon. Friend Mr. Bhima Rao was speaking, somewhat criticizing the policy of the Government. My hon. Friend Dr. John was very happy over it and made the same suggestion. Sir, I have been in this House for the last four years and I have been unable to find even a single constructive suggestion or constructive criticism from the members of the Opposition or even from the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. But whatever may happen to our suggestions and criticisms, as persons responsible to our electorates, it is our duty to bring to the notice of the Government and of this Council, what we feel in the matter and what our electorates want us to do in this house. It does not therefore mean that we endorse everything that the Opposition says or that we have any desire to cross the floor of the House or that we should not say anything by way of criticism in order to improve the administration of this Province, because we are members of the Congress Party. Dr. John may be temporarily in a happy state because we are criticizing the Government, but his happiness will only be temporary and not permanent.

" Now, Sir, as regards sale tax, I would beg of my Hon. Friend the Finance Minister not to approach the Government of India

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with the request that their proposal to exempt essential articles from sales tax, should not be proceeded with. That would be doing a distinct disservice to the people of this country. Even if the Madras Government have any idea to make a move in that direction, I request them to give it up altogether in the interests of the poor people of this Province. If they cannot reduce the sales tax, which now falls even on the poorest sections of the community, at least let them not prevent the Government of India doing some good to the community, in their desire to bring down the level of prices in the country, by exempting essential articles from sales tax."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Then what is it that the Government are giving us? They take away even this source of revenue."

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Here the State Government are also the representatives of the people and they must do something for the people. The State Government do not do it, and the Central Government want to do something in order to bring down prices. Why do they stand in the way? Why do they want to rob Peter to pay Paul? There is a common saying in Tamil in our country, namely, 'சுவது விலக்கேல்', the meaning of which is 'Do not prevent others giving', when you are not able to give anything yourself. This Government say that no retrenchment is possible and therefore no reduction in taxation is possible. But the Central Government have not only given a number of concessions and tax-reliefs to the people of this country, but they have also said that they are going to exempt essential commodities from the operation of the Sales Tax Act. Why do they stand in the way? I would request the Government to think over the matter many times. If the Government go through all the suggestions made by the various members of both the Houses of the Legislature, I am sure they will find many useful suggestions which they could very well adopt and thereby they would find ways and means of effecting more retrenchment and thus get over the temporary difficulties which beset them now. That is all I have to say in regard to this matter.

" Then Sir, so far as the Tanjore district is concerned, the Sales Tax Act is being administered in a most objectionable and oppressive way. Perhaps people in other districts also might have been suffering similarly. I am not objecting so much the principles or the genesis of the tax, nor even of the heavy incidence of it over the people, but the manner in which the Act is administered in the districts causes a great deal of hardships and sufferings to the people, because it is entrusted into the hands of most unsympathetic officers and subordinates. I could give many instances and cite many examples to show how harshly and oppressively it is being administered in the Tanjore district, of which I know very well, and what an amount of harassment they are causing to the ryots, but it will not look nice and it will not also be parliamentary if I detail those things on the floor of the House, because the Officers concerned will not be able to defend themselves. But I want our Hon. Ministers who are very often touring in the districts to examine and find out for themselves how it is being worked and to

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dive deep into these matters and hear people who have got to say anything about them and then they will understand what a lot of havoc is being caused by the subordinate officials of the Commercial Tax Department who administer this Act."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Does the hon. Member want us the Ministers to go into sales tax assessment of the people in the districts? "

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" Sir, I said that our Ministers are already making a lot of tours in the districts, which are certainly expensive. My suggestion is that during those tours, they might hear complaints from people about how the Sales Tax Act is being administered by the subordinate officials of the department."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" On a point of order, Sir, is it in order on the part of my hon. Friend to ask the Ministers to attend to the sufferings of the poor people, or in other words to do the impossible which they will never do? "

3-45 p.m. SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" I am delighted at the sarcasm. I request the Government to see that the administration of the Sales Tax Act is done better. Whoever may be the concerned Minister, he should attend to this matter. This is of primary importance, and it should be attended to. Otherwise what is the use of all these tours?

" I now come to my own district of Tanjore. I have already stated that throughout the district there has been a failure of rains. It is a case where not only the amount set apart for remission, but more money should be remitted. There is no distinction between one tract and another so far as the failure of monsoon is concerned. Consult the District Collector if a lump sum provision is required for distribution among those who deserve remission. This is the first point.

" The second point is that Tanjore town has not been given water supply scheme or drainage scheme for a long time. Every time we have been complaining about it. There was a time when we thought that it would become an accomplished fact, because it was put on the top of the list. Afterwards, it has receded in the list. We wish that Tanjore town must have a water-supply scheme and a drainage scheme. Unless as Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon put it, because Tanjore is good, and therefore we do not want to make it better, and only if it is bad, we want to make it good. I think there is no meaning in refusing a water supply or a drainage scheme to Tanjore town.

" There are one or two matters more. The Government have chosen to employ Additional Public Prosecutors or Special Public Prosecutors from Madras from conducting cases in the districts. In my humble comprehension I think it is not the necessary step at all for conducting State prosecutions. Prosecutors of that particular district may very well do it. The result also does not always depend upon the particular prosecutor who is appearing. What about Udayarpalayam murder case? After so many changes of

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policy, the Udayarpalayam murder case was taken on hand, and a special prosecutor was appointed. The Public Prosecutor of the place would have conducted the case as ably as the special prosecutor. Then, Sir, there is another prosecution going on in Tanjore for the last one year, the Hanuman Bank prosecution case. A special prosecutor has been appointed. I hear his fee is Rs. 250 per day. A retired gentleman has been appointed as the Magistrate in charge of this case. The exigencies of the work of the State prosecutor enable him to come for three days in the week. The result is the case has been prolonged for one year. Five hundred exhibits had been filed for the last one year, and the term of the special magistrate has been extended. There is no chance of seeing the decision at least for another year. Would it not be possible for a recognised public prosecutor of the place to be entrusted with the conduct of the case? Would it not be a saving? On an arithmetical calculation, it will be a question of some lakhs of rupees. (Interruption.) Many a mickle makes a mickle. If instead of Rs. 550 we spend Rs. 50 only, and if we take away one officer on Rs. 250 per month, and also if we take away all these special prosecutors, it would mean a very good saving. If savings like this are accumulated, we will see that there is a considerable saving. (Interruption.) Between one lawyer and another, there is no difference especially in prosecution cases.

“ Sir, I am here reminded of the Tamil proverb ‘ஒட்டக்கூத்தன் பாட்டுக்கு இரட்டைத் தாழ்ப்பான்.’ I do not want to go into the history of that proverb. A certain royal lady was dissatisfied with her husband. There were two poets in the palace. One was Pughazhendi and the other was Ottakoothar. Ottakoothar was the poet with whom the royal lady was not pleased. Unfortunately, the Raja introduced Ottakoothar to the royal lady. The poet approached her and said ‘is it proper for you to displease your lord; please do not be dissatisfied with him; please remove the bolt.’ The moment the poet told all these, the royal lady put the other bolt also saying ‘ஒட்டக்கூத்தன் பாட்டுக்கு இரட்டைத்தாழ்ப்பான்.’ Then the other poet Pughazhendi, whom the royal lady liked, came in, and as soon as he sang a song—it might have been superior or inferior to the one rendered by the other poet—the royal lady opened the door, and allowed access to the house. The Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee has made certain proposals. But here in the detailed budget estimates, we find that a number of officers are appointed. The number of officers who were in the previous year and those who are in this year are also given. Money has been spent in the previous year and also in this year for payment to these officers. I worked out the details to find out how much has been decreased or how much has been increased. I took one hour for all these calculations. I find that as a result of my examination the number of employees has been increased as if to spite the Committee. Is there any justification for this. I think there must be justification. I do not put it in the ironical way, but . . . ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ Is the royal lady justified? ”

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SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" If the royal lady is not justified, you are not satisfied."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Which Minister is the royal lady, Sir." (Laughter.)

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" I am seriously of the view and I am conscientiously of the view that the Cabinet has not bestowed as much attention as it can to the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Re-organization Committee. As my hon. friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao put it, I see from the report that they must have summoned the heads of departments, consulted them, and taken their proposals or modified proposals, and given effect to those proposals as far as possible. Of course, their proposals may require some re-consideration. But at the same time to throw them overboard and to say that this is the last word on the matter, and that hereafter the Government would not consider the Retrenchment Committee's proposal, is very uncharitable."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Does the hon. Member agree with Mr. Suryanarayana Rao's criticism?"

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—" On that particular point I agree, but I do not see the point of this interruption. It is not that we have sold ourselves to everybody. We are certainly discharging our duties to our electorate. If there is anything not to our satisfaction, we are bound to give expression to it. But it does not mean that we support the Opposition through thick and thin. We see whether it is a practical policy or whether it hits upon . . . (Interruption by Dr. V. K. John.) There is no insinuation, Sir. I put it to the Hon. Ministers to see that the points I have urged are considered."

" One other point. In the City Civil Court there was a vacancy. It was not filled up for many days. In Tanjore there was a vacancy for 16 days on account of transfers of persons. There was no Judge for 16 days. I do not know why these things should occur. If it is only a question of one or two days, it can easily be explained away. But if it is a period of 16 days, we have to take into consideration the discomfort of the litigants. Cannot the Cabinet take all these things into consideration when granting leave to officers. I put it to the Hon. Ministers to see that these difficulties do not occur again, and that the litigants are not put to any discomfort."

" Hon. Ministers have to make tours; perhaps sometimes it may be necessary, and at other times it may not be necessary. Hon. Ministers must make it a rule or a matter of discipline that whenever they go out on tours, they do not ask the district officers—from the Collector downwards—to forsake their duties as judges and executive officers and be attending upon them. This interferes with the work of the administration. I have found it out not only to my discomfort but to the discomfort of a great number of people. I am only ventilating the grievances of the people when I say that the tours of Hon. Ministers have not been received by the public

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in good spirit, especially the litigant public when it causes great inconvenience to them. I may be taken to task, and I may be told that I am uncharitable. I may be told that I am prejudiced towards the Ministers. It is not so. I am not making these remarks in a spirit of contempt or in a spirit of defiance. Let the Hon. Minister tour as and when necessary. But at the same time let them not interfere with the everyday administration, either on the civil side or criminal side, by allowing these Collectors and Magistrates to forsake their duties and be attending upon them. This is all I have to say. Hon. Ministers concerned will pardon me if I have overstepped my limits, or if I have offered any improper remarks. But I expressed all that I had in my mind. I was at first diffident of making these remarks, but I have given expression to all that I felt. Thank you, Sir."

SRI S. A. S. R. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே ! பட்ஜட் விஷயமாக நிதி மந்திரி கனம் கோபால் ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் புது வரி போடாததற்காக அவரை நான் முழுமனதுடன் பாராட்டுகிறேன்.

" ஏற்கனவே மேன்மைதங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் பிரசங்கத்தின்மேல் நடந்த விவாதத்தின்போது, பல வழிகளிலும் இப்போது அவைசியமாக செலவழியும், செலவுகளைக் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்று பேசியிருக்கின்றேன். மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கும் அது தெரியும்.

" வருவாய்க்குத் தகுந்த செலவு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று அந்தக் காலத்திலே பலர் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்போது எப்படியிருக்கிறதென்றால் செலவிற்குத் தகுந்தபடி வருவாயை உண்டுபண்ண வேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. இப்படியில்லாமல் தற்போது நடக்கின்ற ஏராளமான செலவுகளை சர்க்கார் குறைத்துக்கொண்டால் ஏராளமான பணம் மிச்சமாகும். மிச்ச பணத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அனேக நல்ல காரியங்களைச் செய்யலாம்.

" இப்போது கேஸ் சம்பந்தமாக ஏராளமான பணத்தைச் செலவிடுகிறார்கள். ஆதிசேஷனுக்கு ஆயிரம் தலைபோல பணம் வீணாகப் பாழாகிறது. கடலில் வாரிக் கொட்டுவதுபோல பணத்தை அள்ளி இறைக்கிறார்கள். யாஹ்யா ரையாவது அடித்தானென்றால் இதற்கு 2 போலீஸ்காரர்கள், 4 இன்ஸ்பெக்டர், சி.ஐ.டி. க்கள் என்று விசாரணை செய்ய ஏராள பணம் வீணாகிறது. சம்பந்தப்பட்ட பார்டி கேஸ் நடத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறான். ஊரில் நடக்கக்கூடிய வியாஜ்யம், சச்சரவுகளிற் கெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் எதற்காக செலவு செய்யவேண்டும். முறிந்துபோகும் ஒவ்வொரு பாங்கின் கேசையும் நடத்தவேண்டுமென்றால் இன்று 1,154 பாங்குகளிற்குமேலிருக்கிறது. அவற்றையெல்லாம் நடத்துவதென்றால் வீணாக பணம் விரயம் தான் ஆகும். இவ்விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார், ஸ்ரீ நடராஜன் அவர்கள் சொல்லியது போல கவனம் செலுத்தி செலவுகளைக் குறைக்கவேண்டும். தவிர இதைப்போல் செலவுகளைக் குறைப்பதற்கு இன்னும் எத்தனையோ item கள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளில் எல்லாம் சர்க்கார் கவனம் செலுத்திச் செலவுகளைக் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக இப்போது ரேஷன் ஆபீசில் ஆக்ட்டும், சேல் டாக்ஸ், எலக்ட்ரிக் பில் முதலியன கட்டப் போகக்கூடிய இடங்களில் ஆக்ட்டும் சுமார் 250,300 பேர்கள் வாசல்லே வரிசையாக நிற்கின்றார்கள். அந்த ஆபீசுகளில் ஜனங்கள் தங்கி நிற்க சிறிய வராந்தாயிருக்கிறது என்றாலும் அதில் 20, 30 பேர்கள்தான் நிற்க முடியும். பாக்கிப் பேர்கள் நல்ல வெய்யிலிலே நிற்கவேண்டி ஏற்படுகிறது. (At this stage, the Deputy Chairman occupied the Chair.) ஏதா நம் ஜனங்கள் வெய்யிலிலே நின்று கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்களே, அவர்களை சீக்கிரம் பணம் வாங்கிக்கொண்டு அனுப்புவோம் மென்ற உணர்ச்சி அந்த ஆபீசுகளிலுள்ள நமது உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்குக் கிடையாது. வெள்ளையர்களின் ஆக்கிராலத்திலாவது அதிகாரிகளுக்கு கொஞ்சம் உணர்ச்சியிருந்தது. அதுவும் இப்போது, எம்.ஏ., பி.ஏ., படித்துவிட்டு புதிதாக வேலைக்கு வந்திருக்கக்கூடியவர்களிடம்

[S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar] [6th March 1950]

கொஞ்சம் கூட கிடையாது. ஏதோ ஒரு சமயத்தில் நானும் கூட பணம் கட்டப்போயிருந்தபோது அவ்வாறு கஷ்டப்பட்டிருக்கிறேன். “அப்பா நான் M.L.C., எனச் சொன்னபோதிலும், அடே போய்யா. நீ M. ஆய் இருந்தாலென்ன, L. ஆய் இருந்தாலென்ன, C. ஆய் இருந்தாலென்ன என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். M.L.C. என்றால் யார் என்பது கூட தெரியாத இவர்களெல்லாம் M.A., படித்துவிட்டார்களாம். இம்மாதிரி புதிதாக வேலைக்கு எடுப்பவர்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் அவசியமாக 6 மாதத்திற்காவது பொது மக்களோடு கூட எப்படி பழகவேண்டுமென அவர்களுக்கு training கொடுக்கவேண்டும். உதாரணமாகச் சொல்லுகின்றேன். Electricity பில்லென்றால் 20 தேதிக்குள் பணம் கட்டவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் connection-ஐ எடுத்து விடுவேனென்று நோட்டீஸ் வருகிறது. அதுவும் 20 தேதிக்குள் வருகிறது. உடனே பணம் கட்டப்போனால் ஒரே கூட்டம். பணமோ பிற்பகல் 3 மணிக்குமேல் வாங்கமாட்டார்கள். அங்கிருக்கக் கூடிய அதிகாரிகளாவது சீக்கிரத்தில் வேலை செய்கிறார்களாயென்றால் கிடையாது. வெய்யிலாய் இருந்தாலும், மழையாய் இருந்தாலும் வாசலிலே வரிசையாக நிற்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆட்கள்தான் குறைவாயிருக்கிறதோ வென்று உள்ளேபோய் பார்த்தால் கண்ணுக்கு எட்டினவரை ஒரே ஆட்கள்தான். இதுமாதிரியான நேரங்களில் ஏன் இன்னும் ஒரு நாளிதை பேர்களை அந்த செக்ஷனில் வேலை செய்யசொல்லக்கூடாது என்று தெரியவில்லை. எனது நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ நடராஜன் அவர்கள் பேசும் போது, கணம் ஸ்ரீ கோபால் ரெட்டி அவர்கள் மந்திரிகளெல்லாம் ரேஷன் ஷாப்பு, சேல் டாக்ஸ் ஆபீஸ் முதலிய இடங்களுக்குப் போகவேண்டுமா என்றார்கள். ஆம்; அவசியம் போகத்தான் வேண்டும். அப்போது தான் ஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டத்தை அவர்கள் உணர்வார்கள் என்று நினைக்கின்றேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக பஞ்சாயத்து பில் இப்போது பாசாகியிருக்கின்றது. அதன்மூலம் ஆந்திராவிற்கு ஒரு கோடி ரூபாய் போகிறது. ஆனால் ஆந்திராவிலிருந்து 33 லக்ஷம் ரூபாய்தான் வருகிறது. பாக்கி பணம் 67 லக்ஷம் ரூபாயும் தமிழ் நாட்டிலிருந்து அவர்களுக்குப் போகிறது. சமீபத்தில் ஆந்திர மாகாணம் பிரியப்போகிறது என்றார்கள். பிரியக் காணோம். ஆனால் எனக்கு முன் பேசிய ஆந்திர நண்பர்கள் பேச்சைக் கேட்போது எனக்கு ரொம்ப வருத்தமாயிருந்தது. மாகாணப் பிரிவினைப் பேச்சையே குழிதோண்டி புதைத்துவிட்டது போன்று பேசினார்கள். அது குழிதோண்டி புதைக்கப்படவில்லை. சீக்கிரத்தில் பிரிந்துவிடுமென்று நம்புகிறேன். நம் தமிழ்நாட்டுப்பணம் இந்த பஞ்சாயத்து பில்லால் ஆந்திர தேசத்திற்குப் போய்விடுவதால், ஆந்திரமாகாணம் பிரியும்வரைக்கும் இந்த பஞ்சாயத்து பில்லை அமுலிற் கொண்டு வரவேண்டாமென்று அறிவிக்கின்றேன்.

“அதோடு தமிழ் நாட்டின் தலைநகர் சென்னைதான் எனத் தீர்மானமாகி மூன்று வருஷங்களாகின்றன. அப்படியிருக்க சென்னை கார்ப்பொரேஷனுக்கு கமிஷனராக ஒரு தெலுங்கரையே அப்போதுதான் போட்டிருந்தார்களென்றால் மறுபடியும் மூன்று வருடத்திற்கு அவர்களையே போட்டிருப்பது மிகவும் கேவலம். யார் கேட்கப்போகிறார்கள் என்றுதான் அப்படிச் செய்கிறார்களபோலும். இரண்டாவது சென்னை நகர மோட்டார் டிரான்ஸ்போர்டில் எவ்வளவு தமிழர்கள், ஆந்திரர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அசம்பலியில் வந்த கேள்விக்கு தமிழர்கள் அதிகம் என்றும், ஆந்திரர்கள் குறைவு என்றும் ஆந்திர மெம்பர்கள் சத்தம் போட்டார்கள். தமிழர்கள் அதிகம்தான் என்றாலும் எல்லாம் சின்ன உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் தான். ரூ. 1,000, ரூ. 500, ரூ. 2,000 வாங்கக்கூடியவர்கள் எல்லாம் ஆந்திரர்கள் என்பதை யாரும் சொல்லவில்லை. பணத்தில் பார்த்தால் தமிழர்களைக்காட்டிலும் ஆந்திரர்களுக்குத்தான் அதிகம் போய்விடுகிறது.”

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“May I appeal to the hon. Member not to follow the example of another place in the matter of discussing these important things which may raise quite different feelings from what they are expected to do ?

“நான் சொல்வதற்கு ‘பெரியவான்’ மன்னிக்க வேண்டும். அவர்கள் தான் சொல்லுகிறார்களென்றால் நாமுமா திருப்பிச் சொல்லணும்?”

“அடுத்தபடியாக நண்பர் ஸ்ரீ நடராஜன் அவர்கள் தஞ்சாவூருக்கு என்னென்ன செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதைப் பற்றி சொன்னார்கள். நானும் தஞ்சாவூர் சேர்மனாக இருந்திருக்கிறேன். அந்த வூருக்கு வேண்டிய தண்ணீர் வசதி, ‘டிபிரேஷஜ்’, வசதிகள் செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அங்கிருந்துதான் பணம் சர்க்காருக்கு அதிகம் வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அந்த வசதிகளையெல்லாம் செய்யவேண்டுமென கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். மழையில்தான் காரணமாக தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லா பூராவும் பயிர் நாசமாகிவிட்டதன் காரணமாக அந்த ஜில்லாவிற்கு remission கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். எனக்கும் சட்டசபையில் 15 வருஷ அனுபவமுண்டு. எனக்குத் தெரிந்தவரையில் அசம்பவியில் பாசாய் வந்த எந்த பில்லாய் இருந்தாலும் இங்கே, A, B, C, என்ற வார்த்தையைக்கூட திருத்தியதில்லை. இருந்தாலும் நல்ல விஷயங்களாய் இருந்தால் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதைப்போல ஸ்ரீ நடராஜன் சொல்லியவற்றை கவனித்து தஞ்சாவூருக்கு வேண்டிய வசதிகளையெல்லாம் செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டும். தஞ்சாவூரில் பல இடங்கள் சாவியாய்ப்போய் பயிர் நாசமாகிவிட்டது என்பது கலைக்கூட ரிபோர்டிலே சர்க்கார் தெரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கலாம். இவையெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் கவனத்தில் வைத்துக் கொண்டு நல்ல காரியங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும்.”

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[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [6th March 1950]

ఇది నేను ప్రభుత్వముపై ఎట్టి వ్యతిరేకభావముతోను చెప్పటలేదు. దేశంలోని యదా ర్థపరిస్థితులేమీ, సామాన్యప్రజ, రైతాంగం వివిధంగా బాధపడుతున్నారో ప్రభుత్వం వారిదృష్టికి తీసుకొనిరావడమే నా ముఖ్యోద్దేశము.

“మన దేశము ముఖ్యంగా వ్యవసాయకదేశము. నూటికి 85 మంది ప్రజలవరకు గ్రామీణులు. వారిందరు వ్యవసాయమీదే ఆధారపడిజీవించే సామాన్యప్రజలు. అట్టి ప్రజలకు ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ నాలుగు సంవత్సరాలనుంచి ఎటువంటి సహాయసానుభూతులను చూపించారో గమనించవలసియున్నది. మనం అధికారంలోనికి వచ్చేవరకును గ్రామీణుడైన రైలే దేశానికి వెన్నెముక అని, రైతు శ్రేయస్సే దేశశ్రేయస్సని, పల్లెటూళ్లను ఉద్ధరించడమే ప్రభుత్వంయొక్క ముఖ్య కర్తవ్యమని ఎన్నో మాటలుచెప్పాము కాని మనకు మన వాగ్దానాలను ఆదర్శాలను ఎంతవరకు ఆచరణలో పెట్టామని ఆలోచించుకుంటే అట్టి ప్రయత్నంజరిగిందా అనే సందేహముకూడా కలుగవచ్చును. గ్రామాభివృద్ధికొరకు ఇంతవరకు చెప్పకోదగ్గవనులేమీ మనముచేయలేదని చెప్పకొనక తప్పదు. ఈనాడు గ్రామాలలోనికిపోయి చూచినట్లయితే అసంతృప్తిగాని సంతృప్తి ఎంతమాత్రం కనపించడంలేదు. ఏ రైతును అడిగినా తాను ఇదివరకటికన్న తాను ఎన్నోవిధాల కష్టపడవలసిన పనిందనే తెలుతాడుకాని ఎటువంటి సంతృప్తి ప్రదర్శించడంలేదు. రైతు యొక్క తోడ్పాటులేనిదే దేశం బాగుపడడం కష్టం. రైతుయొక్క సహాయంలేనిదే ఆహారసమస్య ఎన్నడూ పరిష్కరించలేము. వది బస్తాలధాన్యంపండ్లతోట పడకొండు బస్తాలపండిలే దేశంలో టైమంకాని, కరువుగాని తలపెత్తలేవు. ఈ అధిరోత్పత్తికి తగిన ప్రోత్సాహము రైతుకు ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వం ఇవ్వడంలేదు. రైతుకు కావలసిన సౌకర్యాలు కలుగజేసే ఆహారసమస్య ఈనాటి విపరీత పరిస్థితులలో ఉండదు. అధిరోత్పత్తిచెయ్యడంపై ఉద్బోధించినంతమాత్రంచేత, సానుభూతిచూపినంతమాత్రంచేత, ప్రయోజనంకనవడదు. క్రియార్థుల వేల రైతుకు సహాయపడేనాడే చక్కటి ఫలితాలు కలుగుతాయి. ఈరోజున మనం గ్రామంలోని రైతులదగ్గరకు పోయినట్లయితే వారు మనలను అడిగే ప్రశ్నలకు విమీ సమాధానము చెప్పాలో తెలియడంలేదు. రైతులు ప్రభుత్వాన్ని, కాంగ్రెస్ను విమర్శిస్తున్నారేకాని సానుభూతి ఎంతమాత్రం చూపటంలేదు. ఈ విషయాలనే నేను ఇదివరలో అనేకపర్యాయాలు చెప్పియున్నాను. రైతుకు ఒక బండిపట్టా అయినా ఇవ్వలేనిస్థితిలో ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వము ఉన్నదంటే చాలా విచారకరమైన విషయము; చాలా దుర్భరమైన పరిస్థితి.

“ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో రైతుకు అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి చేయటానికి ఎటువంటి ఉత్సాహము, ఆవేక్ష ఉంటాయో ప్రభుత్వంవారు గుర్తించాలి. అక్కడ దేశానికి వెన్నెముక అని చెప్పబడి రైతుయొక్కస్థితి అభ్యాన్నముగా ఉంటుండగా ఇక్కడ పట్టువాసాలో చూచినట్లయితే పెద్ద పెద్ద భవంతులకు, కర్మాగారాలకు ఇతర విషయాలకు ఎన్నోట్టుల ఇనుము, ఇనుపసామాన్లు ఇవ్వబడుతున్నాయి. ఏ రైతైనా ఎదోపనిమీద పట్టణవాసాలువచ్చిచూచి, ఇన్ని వేల టన్నుల ఇనుము పట్టులలో ఇవ్వటానికి ఉన్నదిగాని, నాకు ఒక బండిపట్టాకుగాని, పాకకుగాని, నాగలికర్రకుగాని కావలసినది ఇవ్వటానికి లేదంటారు అని అడుగుతుంటే అతనికి సమాధానముచెప్పడం చాలాకష్టంగా ఉన్నది. రైతు దేశానికి మూలాధారమని చెప్పిన మనమే రైతుయొక్కస్థితి గుర్తించకపోతే, అంతకన్న విచారకరమైన పరిస్థితి వేరే ఏమీ ఉండజోదని ప్రభుత్వంవారు గ్రహించాలి.

“వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లకుగాను ఇనుపరేకులైనా దొరకక రైతులు ఎంతబాధ పడవలసివస్తోందో మనవిచేస్తాను. ఉదాహరణగా ఒక రైతు విషయం తెలియజేస్తాను. ఆ రైతుకు కావలసిన రేకుకు వ్యవసాయ డిపార్టుమెంటువారిదగ్గర, వరఖాస్తు పెట్టు

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కున్నాడు. ఆ ఉద్యోగులచుట్టూ, ప్రతిసారి రానురాను పదేసేమైక్ల వచ్చి, ఎక్కడో సార్లు తిరిగాడు. వాళ్లు ఇప్పుడొస్తుంది, అప్పుడొస్తుంది అన్నీ తుదకు కేకువచ్చిన తరువాతకూడా ఆ రైతుకు ఇవ్వలేకపోయినారు. ఆ ఉద్యోగులనుకు ఒకప్పుడు కేకు వచ్చినాకూడా వైనుంచి అంటే మదరాసునుంచి recommendation వచ్చినవారికే ఇవ్వవలసి వచ్చింది కాని, అనేకసార్లు కాళ్లు అరిగిపోయేట్లు ఈ ఉద్యోగులచుట్టూ తిరిగిన రైతుకు ఏమీలాభంలేకపోయింది. ఆఖరు రైతుకావలసిన ఇవ్వకరేకుకుకూడా మద్రాసుకువచ్చి Joint Director of Agriculture యొక్క ఆఫీసుచుట్టూ పడిగా పులుపడి, గుమాస్తాలకు, ఇతరులకు ంచాలు పెట్టవలసిన అవసరం, ఆవస్థవడలే అధికావారోత్పత్తి ఎంత ఉత్పాదకంగా జరుపబడుతు దో గ్రహించుకోవాలి. ఏ విధంగా చూచినరైతు నిరతానుడైనాడనే చెప్పాలిగాని ఆరనికి ప్రభుత్వం సహాయపడిందని గాని, ఇకముందు సహాయపడదాచిందని గాని చెప్పటానికి అవకాశములేకుండా ఉన్నది. కాంగ్రెసువారు అధికారములోనికివచ్చి నాలుగు సంవత్సరములైనది. ఈ నాలుగు ఏండ్ల కాలంలో మనము ఏవిధంగానైనా పట్టేటాళ్లకు సహాయముచేసినామా అని మౌనముమీద చేయివైచుకొని ఆలోచించుటలైతే ఏమీలేదనిమాత్రము చెప్పుక తప్పదు. ఆర్థిక శాఖామాత్యులు ఈ సంవత్సరం కొత్తపన్నులు వేటిని వేయలేదని, దానికి ప్రజలు సంతోషించేదాలని ఆశించున్నారు. ఆర్థికశాఖామాత్యులు ఎప్పుడు ఎటు ఎంటి కొత్తపన్నులు వేయవచ్చునా అని ఆలోచించుచున్నట్లుగానే కనిపించుచున్నది. పన్నులు వేయవద్దని నేను చెప్పను కాని ఎటువంటిపన్నులు వేయాలి, ఎవరిమీద హెచ్చుపన్నులు వేయాలి అనే విషయాలు ఎంతో శ్రద్ధతో పరిశీలించాలి. మన దేశం లోని పట్టేటారి ప్రజలైన రైతులు చాలా పేదవారని వారిమీద హెచ్చుపన్నులారం ఉంచ కూడదని ఇదివరలో మనమే అనేకసార్లు చెప్పిఉన్నాము. మహాత్ముడు మనకు గ్రామ నేత, దేశనేత, ప్రజానేత ఉత్కృష్ట ఆదర్శాలని చెప్పిఉన్నాడు. వానిము ఆయన అనుచరులమని చెప్పుకుంటున్నాము. ప్రతిచోట పెద్ద పెద్ద posters మీద 'He showed us the way' అని ఒక మార్గము దానిపై గాంధీ మహాత్ముని కాళ్లు చూపించబడినవి. అంటే గాంధీమహాత్ముని ఆదర్శాలు మనకు మార్గదర్శకములని ప్రభుత్వమువారి అభిప్రాయమని నేను ఆశించుంటున్నాను. కాని మనము ఎంతవరకు గాంధీ మహాత్ముని ఉత్కృష్ట ఆశయాలను ఆచరింలాపెట్టినామా పరిశీలించి చూచినట్లయితే మనము తగినంత శ్రద్ధచూపలేదేమనని చెప్పవలసి ఉన్నది.

“గాంధీ మహాత్ముని ముఖ్య సిద్ధాంతాలలో విశేషం ఏదైనా సిద్ధాంతం ఒకటి. ఈ నాడు మన దేశంలోఉన్న ఆర్థిక విధానం మన దేశాభివృద్ధికి సరిపడదని, దానివల్ల గ్రామాలలో ఉన్నటువంటి విశేష ప్రజానీకానికి ఏమీలాభం కలుగదని, వారి జీవన ప్రమాదాన్ని ఎంతమాత్రముకూడా అభివృద్ధి పరచలేమని గాంధీ మహాత్ముడు, కాంగ్రెసు మహాసంస్థ మనకు ఎన్నోసార్లు చెప్పిఉన్నది. కాని ఇంతవరకు ఆ ఉత్కృష్ట ఆశయాలను ఆచరింలాపెట్టలేదు. గ్రామీణులు వారి వారి విధులేమా బాధ్యతలేమా గుర్తించేటట్లు చేయాలి. వారి పనులు వారే చూచుకొనవలసిన బాధ్యత వారైననే ఉంచాలి. గ్రామాలయొక్క అవసరాలేమా, వాటిని గ్రామములలోని ప్రజలే ఎట్లుతీర్చు కొనగలరనే విషయం ఆలోచించాలి. గ్రామాల స్వయంసహకము కావాలంటే ఆ బాధ్యత చాలావరకు గ్రామస్తులమీదనే ఉంచాలి. విశేషం ఏదైనా సిద్ధాంతాలను అనుసరించి గ్రామాలలో కుటీర పరిశ్రమలు ఏర్పాటు చేయబడాలి. అవి సక్రమంగా కొనసాగేందుకు కావలసిన అవకాశములన్నింటిని గ్రామాలలో కల్పించాలి. అటువంటి ఆర్థిక విధానము అమలుపరచిననాడే గ్రామములలోని పేద ప్రజలకు తినటానికింత తిండి కట్టటానికి ఇంతవచ్చును దొరికే సావకాశము కలుగుతుంది. అటువంటి స్వయంసహక కార్యక్రమం మీద ప్రజలకు కలిగించిననాడే దేశాన్ని ఆర్థిక సంక్షోభమునుంచి, ప్రతిపక్షకుల

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నుండి ఉద్ధరించడం సాధ్యమవుతుంది. ఇటువంటి అవకాశములు దేశంలో కల్పించక పోవడం వలననే మేమి గత్యంతరం లేక ప్రజలలో కొందరు నేటి సామ్యవాదులమని చెప్పుకొనేవారి ప్రబోధాలకు దానులు కావలసివస్తోంది. Communist లకు దేశంలో కొంత స్థావరం కలుగటానికి గ్రామాలయడల మనం చూపిస్తున్న ఆనాదరణకొంతవరకైన కారణమని నా అభిప్రాయము. రైతు తన జీవనవ్యయాన్ని భరించలేని పరిస్థితులు ఈ నాడు ఏర్పడుచున్నవి. వివస్తువు కొందామన్న ఆతనిశక్తికి మించిన పనిగా ఉన్నది. ఆహారం, వస్త్రము మొదలైన అత్యవసర వస్తువులకూడా అతనిశక్తికిమించిన ధరలకు కొనుక్కోవలసివస్తుంది. గ్రామాలలోని మీద జనులకు బియ్యంకూడా సరసమైన ధరలకు దొరుకుటలేదు. సశ్వశక్తులంగా ఉండవలసిన గ్రామాలలోనే ఆహార ధాన్యములు సమృద్ధిగా ఉండకపోలే దేశం ఎంతటి వికారిత పరిస్థితులను ఎదుర్కొనవలసి వస్తుందో, గురించ గోర్తాను. అధిక ఆహారోత్పత్తి చేయాలని ఒకవైపున ప్రభుత్వం వారు రైతులకు ప్రబోధించేస్తే అందుకు కావలసిన సౌకర్యములు కలుగజేయకపోయిన కారణంచేత రైతులకు వ్యవసాయపుఖర్చులురోను గిట్టువాలు అగుటలేదు. ఈ కారణం చేత, ఇతర వ్యవహారపు పంటలను పండించినట్లయితే ఎక్కువడబ్బు వస్తుందనే కారణం చేత కొన్ని కొన్ని ప్రాంతాలలో రైతులు ఆహారధాన్యాల పండించడం మానివేసి వాటికి బదులుగా హెచ్చుఅదాయం వచ్చేటటువంటి వ్యవహారపు పంటలు పెరుచేస్తున్నారు. ఉదాహరణగా గుంటూరు మొదలైన జిల్లాలలో అనేక వేల ఎకరాలభూమి కొత్తగా పనువు, పొగాకు మొదలైన పంటలకేందకు లేబడినవిషయము ప్రభుత్వంవారి దృష్టికి లేదలచినాను. ఇటువంటి పంటలను మాని వేసి ఆహారధాన్యాలను పండించినట్లైతే ఆ జిల్లాకు సరిపోయినంత ధాన్యం లభించడమే కాకుండా ఇతర జిల్లాలకూడా ఆహారధాన్యాలను సరఫరాచేయగలిగినంత స్థితిలో రైతులు ఉంటారని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. కాబట్టి కొంతవరకైన Commercial Crops క్రింద ఉన్న భూమిని ఆహారధాన్యాల క్రిందకు మార్పించే ప్రయత్నము చేయించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“విద్యా విషయంలోకూడా ప్రభుత్వమువారు చాలరకు చదువు వెప్పించే బాధ్యత గ్రామాలవారి మీదనే ఉంచవలెను. అవిధంగా చేసినాడు గ్రామస్తులు తమ పిల్లలకు సరిగా విద్యబోధజరుగుతుందో లేదో చూచుకొనగలరు. విద్య ప్రజల ప్రాథమిక అవసరములలో ఒకటి. అటువంటిదాని బాధ్యతకూడా గ్రామస్తులకే వప్పగించాలి. అప్పుడు ఇంతమంది District Educational Officer ల యొక్క, Inspector ల యొక్క అవసరం ఉండదు. తమ పిల్లలకు సరిఅయిన పద్ధతులమీద విద్యబోధ జరుగుతుందో లేదో గ్రామస్తులు చూచుకొనగల సుధులు. ప్రతి చిన్న విషయానికి కూడ పట్టణాలమీద ఆధారపడి ఉండవలసిన పరిస్థితులు తొలగించాలి. ఉపాధ్యాయులు సరిగా బోధనచేస్తున్నారో లేదో ప్రజలు తెలుసుకొనగలరు. కాబట్టి విద్యబోధన ముఖ్యంగా ప్రాథమిక విద్యావిషయాలను గ్రామ పంచాయతీల చేతులలో ఉంచవలసినదని మరల ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఇటువంటి వికేంద్రీకరణ సిద్ధాంతాన్నే మహాత్ముడు అనుసరించవలసినదిగా మనకు బోధించినాడు.

“గృహ నిర్మాణం విషయంలోకూడ గ్రామాలు చాలా నిర్లక్ష్యము చేయబడుతున్నాయని ప్రభుత్వంవారు గుర్తించగోర్తాను. ఇప్పుడు పట్టణాలలో మాత్రమే గృహ నిర్మాణ సహకార సంఘాలు ఏర్పాటు చేయబడుచున్నవిగాని పట్టణాల్లో అటువంటి సహకాయము జరుగుటలేదు. యథార్థము పరిశీలించి చూచినట్లైతే పట్టణాలలో కన్న పట్టణాల్లో గృహవసతులు చాలా అసంతృప్తికరముగా ఉన్నవని చెప్పక తప్పదు. గృహనిర్మాణ విషయంలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు గ్రామాలను చాలా నిర్లక్ష్యము చేస్తున్నారని చెప్పవలసినవచ్చినందులకు విచారిస్తున్నాను. ఈ సంవత్సరం బడ్జెటులో

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కేటాయించిన మొత్తాన్ని పరికించినప్పుడు గ్రామాలలో గృహ నిర్మాణానికి ప్రభుత్వం ఎంతవరకు సహాయపడుతోందో అనే విషయానికి సరిఅయిన జవాబు కనిపిస్తుంది. మొత్తము 120 లక్షల రూపాయలు గృహనిర్మాణ సహకార సంస్థలకు ఆప్యగా ఇవ్వబడినట్లు ప్రభుత్వమువారు తెలియజేసినారు. ఈ 120 లక్షల రూపాయలలో 20 లక్షల రూపాయలు మాత్రమే గ్రామాలకుగాను, మిగతా 100 లక్షల రూపాయలు పట్టణవాసాలలోను ఖర్చు పెట్టబడినట్లు కేటాయింపుచేసినారు. దేశంలోని ప్రజలలో నూటికి 90 మందివరకు గ్రామవాసులే అనే విషయం ప్రభుత్వంవారికి తెలియ నటువంటిదికాదు. నూటికి 90 మంది ఉన్న గ్రామాలకు 20 లక్షల రూపాయలు, నూటికి 10 మంది అయినా ఉన్నారో లేదో అటువంటి పట్టు వాసాలకు 100 లక్షల రూపాయలు ఇవ్వబడినారు. గ్రామాలలో గృహనిర్మాణావసరంలేదని ప్రభుత్వంవారి ఉద్దేశమేమైనాని శంకించవలసిన పరిస్థితి ఏర్పడినదని చెప్పుట విచారకరమైన విషయము. గ్రామాలకు ఈ విధంగా నిర్లక్ష్యము చేయవద్దని, గ్రామ ప్రజలయొక్క ఆదరాన్ని కోల్పోవద్దని ప్రభుత్వమువారిని హెచ్చరిస్తున్నాను. గట్టిగా మాట్లాడుతారని, ప్రతికలలో వ్రాయగలరనే కారణంచే పట్టణవాసాలవారి సదుపాయాలకు హెచ్చుదబ్బు ఖర్చు చేస్తున్నారని, తమపట్ల ఆశ్చర్యమూపుచున్నారని పట్టణాల్లోని ప్రజలు అనుకుంటున్నారు. కాంగ్రెసుకు పరిపాలనావకాశాన్ని కల్పించిన వారు ఎక్కువ భాగము గ్రామస్తులేననే విషయాన్ని ప్రభుత్వంవారు విస్మరించకూడదని నా మనవి. ప్రతివిషయంలోకూడ గ్రామస్తుల పట్ల ఇటువంటి అనాదరణ చూపవద్దని, ఆ విధంగా చేసినట్లయితే ఎల్లకాలము మనము వారి ఆదారభిమానాలను, సానుభూతి మారగోలేమని ప్రభుత్వంవారు గుర్తించుకోవలెను.

“వికేంద్రకరణ సిద్ధాంతాలను అనుసరించి సహకార పద్ధతులమీద గ్రామాభివృద్ధి చేయటానికి ప్రభుత్వంవారు హృదయపూర్వకంగా ప్రయత్నించాలి. ఇదివరలో ఉత్పత్తి కొనుగోలుదారుల సహకార సంఘాలు స్థాపించబడినవి. ఆ సంఘాలు మా జిల్లాలలో సంతృప్తికరంగా పనిచేసినప్పటికి కారణాంతరాలవల్ల వాటిని ఈ ప్రభుత్వం వారు ప్రోత్సహించలేదు. ఆహార ధాన్యాలను ఈ సంఘాలు సరఫరాచేసే ధరలను క్రియదీక్రయాలు చేయించుపెడివి. వాటిని రద్దుచేసిన తరువాత ప్రజలకు ప్రత్యేక లాభము లేమి కలిగినవో నాకు అర్థమగుటలేదు. ఎక్కడ చూచినా ఆహార ధాన్యాల ధరలు విపరీతంగా పెరిగిపోయినవని, దొంగమార్కెటు నానాటికి హెచ్చిపోతోందని, ప్రజలు అనుకుంటున్నారేగాని ప్రస్తుత ఆహార ధాన్యాల కంట్రాటు, పంపకము వలన ఎటువంటి సంతృప్తి కలుగటలేదు. ప్రజలకు సరఫరాచేయవలసిన ధరలకు ఆహార ధాన్యాలు దొరకటంలేదనే విషయం అందరకు విదితమే. ఇటువంటి పరిస్థితులకు ముఖ్యకారణం ఈనాడు ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆవలంబిస్తున్న మిశ్ర యజమానుల ద్వారా ధాన్య సేకరణ చేయించడమేనని నా అభిప్రాయము. ధాన్య సేకరణ వ్యక్తుల, capitalists చేతుల్లోనుంచి తీసివేసి ప్రభుత్వమువారి స్వయముగా చూడవలసి యున్నది. ఆహార ధాన్యాల ఆమ్మేవాళ్లు కొనేవాళ్లుకాక ప్రభుత్వమే ఆయిననాడు వ్యక్తులయొక్క స్వలాభాపేక్షకు తాళుండదు. సరఫరాచేసే ధరలకు ప్రజలకు వియ్యం సరఫరా చేయవచ్చును.

“ఇంకొక ముఖ్య విషయాన్ని గురించి మనవిచేస్తాను. మా జిల్లాలు గత సంవత్సరం October, November నెలల్లో విపరీతమైన, ఎన్నడు కనివిని ఎరుగనటువంటి, గాలివానవల్ల దెబ్బతిన్నాయి. వరిపంటకు సంభవించిన నష్టం అపారము. అనేక లక్షల టన్నుల ధాన్యము నీటిపాల్చే పోయింది. పంట కాలా దెబ్బతినింది. మామూలు పంటలలో సగం పంటకూడలేదు. ఇటువంటి పెద్ద నష్టం సంభవించినప్పటికూడా

[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [6th March 1950]

ఆ జిల్లాలలోని ప్రజల అవసరాలను సంతృప్తిపరచడానికి ఆ నేక వేల టన్నుల బియ్యం స్పెషల్ చేర్చి ఇతర జిల్లాలకు రవాణాచేయడంపట్ల న్యాయం కాదు. ఇక్కడ మద్రాసులో ఉండి ఆర్థర్ పాస్ చేసినంత మాత్రాన ప్రయోజనములేదు. జిల్లాలలో ఉన్న Food Committeeల యొక్క సలహాలను కొంతవరకైనా పాటించాలి. జిల్లాలలో ప్రజలకు చాలింత అవసరపడతాల్సిన జిల్లాలలో ఉండి, ఏమైనా మిగులు ఉండేదానిని మాత్రమే ఇతర జిల్లాలకు రవాణా చేయించడం మంచిది. ఇప్పుడు మా జిల్లాలలో చెప్పుకోతగినంత surplus ఉండదు. ఈ procurement చేస్తున్న విధానంచూస్తే చాలా నిరాశాజనకంగా ఉన్నది. కట్టపడి పంట పండించి, పండిన పంటలో ఎక్కువ భాగము నీటిపారుదల వల్ల కొద్దో కొద్దో మిగిలితే, అది రైతుకు సువర్ణర గ్రానానికి సరిపోయినంత ఉన్నదా లేదా అనే విషయాన్ని ఆలోచించకుండా ఇతర జిల్లాలకు కావాలనే కారణ చేత మా జిల్లానుంచి ఆ నేక వేల టన్నుల బియ్యం నిరవాణా చేయించడం రైతులలోను, ప్రజాసామాన్యములోను చాలా ఆసంతోషాన్ని కలిగిస్తోంది. ఒక్క అహార శాఖవారియొక్క అధికారములే కాకుండా స్థానికంగా ఉండి అహార కమిటీలయొక్క ఇతర ఉద్యోగులయొక్క అధికారములకు కూడా విలువ ఉంది రెండవ పంటపచ్చేయకు మా జిల్లాలో ధాన్య సేకరణ నిలిపుచేయ వలసినదని నా సలహా.

“అధిక అహారోత్పత్తి విషయంలో కూడా ప్రభుత్వం వారు తగినంత శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొనుట లేదు. ఆ నేక ప్రాంతాలలో రైతులు అహార ధాన్యాలు పండించడం మానివేసినారు. ఏ పంట పండిస్తే హెచ్చు ఆదాయము వస్తుందో ఆ పంటనే పండిస్తున్నారు. ఇది వరలో వరి, మొదలైన అహార ధాన్యాలు పండించే కొందరు రైతులు ఇప్పుడు పసుపు, పుగాకు పండించుచుండడం నాకు తెలుసు. మా జిల్లాలో ఒక రైతు 500 ఎకరముల భూమిలో పసుపు పండిస్తున్నాడు. ఇటువంటి రైతులు తనకు ఏ పంటవలన హెచ్చు ఆదాయము వస్తుందో ఆ పంటనే పండిస్తున్నారాని ప్రజాసామాన్యానికి కావలసిన అహార ధాన్యాలను పండించుటలేదు. వా ధాన్యము కనుక సాగు చేస్తే ఎకరానికి రూ 150 లో లేక రూ 200 లో కన్న హెచ్చు ఆదాయము రావడంలేదు కాని ఇతర పసుపు, పుగాకు, మొదలైన వ్యవసాయ పంటలను కనుక పండించినట్లయితే ఎకరానికి రూ 1,500, రూ 2,000 ఆదాయము వస్తుంది ఒక్క స్వల్పభాగానికి కాకుండా దేశములోని ప్రజాసామాన్యముయొక్క అవసరాలను గుర్తించి రైతులు అహార ధాన్యాలు పండించాలి. అందుకుగాను ప్రభుత్వం వారు రైతులకు కావలసిన ఇతర సౌకర్యాలను కల్పింజేయాలి. ముఖ్యంగా గుంటూరు, తూర్పు గోదావరి జిల్లాలలో ఆ నేక లక్షల ఎకరాలలో పుగాకు వేస్తున్నారు. పుగాకును ఎందుకు ఈ ప్రభుత్వం నిషేధించడం నాకు అర్థము కావడంలేదు. మధ్యపాన నిషేధం ఎంత అవసరమో ధూమపాన నిషేధం కూడా అంత అవసరమని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ప్రభుత్వం వారు ఎందు చేత ఈ సరస్వరణ చేయడంలేదో నాకు బాధపడుటలేదు. బహుశః ఆర్థిక శాఖా మంత్రులకు ధూమపానం నిషేధం కాదేమో.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“అప్పుడప్పుడు నిషేధం కాదు.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“నా అధికారంలో మధ్యపానంపై

ప్రజలు వివిధంగా బాధపడుతున్నారో అదేవిధంగా ధూమపానంపై కూడా ప్రజలు ఇబ్బందులు పడుతున్నారు. కొందరు వ్యక్తులు నెలకు రూ 50 ల నుంచి, రూ 100 ల వరకు కూడా సిగరెట్లు కాల్పుచున్నవారిని నేను ఎరుగుదును. నెలకు రూ 50 ల ఆదాయం వస్తుంది. రూ 10 ల వరకు ధూమపానానికి ఖర్చు పెట్టేవారు ఆ నేకమంది ఉన్నారు. రూ 50 ల ఆదాయంలో రూ 10, రూ 15 ల వరకు సిగరెట్లకు ఖర్చు

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పెట్టే, ఆ కుటుంబంలో ఒకరో, ఇద్దరో చదువుకొనే పిల్లల ఉంటే ఎంతదబ్బు ఆకుటుంబ యజమాని, కుటుంబ పోషకుని వ్యయపరచగలడో బోధపడుతుంటేదు. ఈ ధూమపాన వ్యసనానికి అలవాటుపడ్డవారు ఎన్నో బాధలకు గురికావలసివస్తోంది. కల్లుతాగితే కడుపునిండుతుందేమోగాని సిగరెట్ తాగితే వివిజగుతుందో నాకు బోధపడలేదు. ఏదో 'ఉఫ్, ఉఫ్' అని ఊదేస్తే ఏమి సంతృప్తి కలుగుతుందో వానికి తెలియదు. కొంతమంది గౌరవసభ్యులు పొగాకువల్ల మన దేశానికి డాలర్లు వస్తాయని, ఆ డాలర్లతో ఆహారధాన్యాలు, ఇతర పరికరాలు కొనుక్కోనవచ్చునని అంటున్నారు. ఈ డాలర్ల ఆవసరమేమో నాకు అర్థమగుతుంటేదు. పొగాకు పండించేబడులు ఆహారధాన్యాలు పండించినట్లయితే మనకు డాలర్లు ఉన్నా లేకపోయినా ఇబ్బంది ఉండదు. రష్యా దేశానికి ఏడాలర్లు ఉండడంవలన ఇంకొక్క దేశంగా, ప్రపంచంలోని బలవత్తరమైన దేశంగా తయారైందో గ్రహించాల. రష్యావానికి డాలర్ల ఆవసరం ఎంతమాత్రం ఉన్నట్లు కనిపించదు. వారి ఆవసరాలన్నింటినీ వారి దేశంలోనే రష్యనులు ఉత్పత్తి చేసు కొంటున్నారు. మన ఆహారాన్ని మనం పండించుకొంటే మనకు డాలర్ల ఆవసరం ఎంతమాత్రం ఉండదు. ఆహారవిషయంలో, వస్త్రవిషయంలోను స్వయంపోషకముగా ఉన్నవాడు డాలర్లతో మనము ఏమిచేసుకుంటాము. ఈ డాలర్లవల్ల షేప్ షాడర్లు, టూత్ బ్రష్లు కొనుక్కోవడం మనకు ఎంతమాత్రం అవసరంలేదు. మనకు ముఖ్యంగా కావలసింది ఆహారధాన్యాలు. వాటికొరతే ఈనాడు మనము ఇతరదేశాలమీద ఆధారపడ వలసివస్తోంది. మనకున్న భూమిలోనే వీలైనంతవరకు ఆహారధాన్యాలను పండించి నట్లయితే మనం పరదేశాలమీద ఆధారపడవలసిన అవసరంలేదు. ఈ విధంగా పరదేశాల మీద ఎంతకాం మనం ఆధారపడఉండగలము. ఆహారధాన్యాలలాంటి ఉన్నతకాలము దేశం కానుపడుతుంటుంది. దైవా పుగాకును పండించడంవలన మధ్యతరగతి ప్రజలకు అపార సత్వం కలుగుతోంది కాని ఎవరికీ లాభంకలుగుతుంటేదు. ఈ విషయాలను గురించి సిగరెట్లు కార్మికులకు నిషేధించేయగోరాను. అంతేకాకుండా మనదేశానికి ఇతర దేశాలనుంచి సిగరెట్లు దిగుమతికాకుండా చూడగోరాను. ఇదివరలో నేను ఈ శాసన సభలో వేసిన ప్రశ్నలకు సమాధానం చెబుతూ ప్రభుత్వంవారు, మనరాష్ట్రంలోనికి ఇతర ప్రాంతాలనుంచి ప్రతినెల లక్షలాది విలువకలిగిన సిగరెట్లు పంపబడుతున్నాయి అని అన్నారు. ఈ లక్షలాది డబ్బును మధ్యతరగతి ప్రజలు పొగలాగ మాట్చేస్తున్నారు. ధూమపానాన్ని నిషేధించినట్లయితే మధ్యతరగతి ప్రజలు ఎంతో సుఖపడతారు. ఎందుకు కొరగాని ఈ వ్యవసానికి వారు గురిపెత్తున్నారు."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ సభ్యునికూడ నిషేధించ మంటారా? ”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“ సభ్యుని నిషేధించబోనికికూడా నాకు ఏమీ అభ్యంతరంలేదు. పొగాకు సంపూర్ణంగా నిషేధించవలసినదనే నా అభిప్రాయము.

“అంతేకాకుండా గ్రామాలలోని ప్రజలయొక్క జీవనప్రమాణము అభివృద్ధిపరచా లంటే గాంధీమహాత్ముడు చెప్పిన వికేంద్రీకరణ సిద్ధాంతమే మనకు గత్యంతరము. మహాత్ముని ఆశయాలు అత్యుత్కృష్టమైనవి. ప్రజలలో నైతిక ప్రతిపత్తిని అభివృద్ధిపరచి వారిని ఆర్థికంగాను, సాంఘికంగాను ఉద్ధరించడానికే అవి ప్రదేశింపబడినవి. గాంధీజీ యొక్క ఉత్కృష్ట ఆదర్శాలను మేము ఆపరిమితంగా గౌరవిస్తామని చెప్పినంత మాత్రాన ప్రమాణమేలేదు. హృదయపూర్వకంగా ఆ ఆదర్శాలను సమీప వాటిని అమలుజరుప పూనుకున్ననాడే మనము ప్రజలయొక్క సానుభూతి పొందగలమని చెబుతున్నాను.

[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [6th March 1950]

“ఈ మధ్య మన ప్రభుత్వంవారు గ్రామ పంచాయతీ చట్టాన్ని ఉభయ శాసన సభలలోను పాస్ చేసి ఉన్నారు. అది కొంతవరకు పట్టాభిషేకం నివహించేవారికి ఉపయోగపడుతుంది గ్రామస్తులు వారి పనులు వారే చేసుకొనేటటువంటి వీళ్ళ కలుగ జేసినట్లయితే ప్రభుత్వంవారికి చాలా బాధ్యత తగ్గుతుంది. ఈనాడు కొన్ని చోట్ల మధ్యపాన నిషేధ కార్యక్రమం సక్రమంగా అమలుజరుపబడటంలేదని అంటే కారణం ప్రభుత్వంవారికి ప్రజలయొక్క సంపూర్ణ సహకారము లేదనిమాత్రమే నేననుకుంటున్నాను. మధ్యపాన నిషేధాన్ని కూడా గ్రామ పంచాయతీల చేతులలో కనుక ఉంచినట్లయితే అది సక్రమంగా కొనసాగింపబడగలదనుటలో విమోచనం సందేహములేదు. ఎక్కడో పట్టణవాసాలలో ఉన్న ఉద్యోగస్తులు మధ్యపాన నిషేధాన్ని సక్రమంగా అమలుచేయాలంటే సాధ్యంకాదు. గ్రామ పంచాయతీలకే ఈ అధికారాన్ని కనుక అప్పగించినట్లయితే వారు గ్రామాలలో ఎవరు ఎటువంటివారో తెలుసుకొని, వెంట వెంటనే దొంగతనంగా సారాయి తయారుచేయడం మాన్పించగలరు. ఎవరు శాసనాన్ని ఉల్లంఘిస్తున్నారో తెలుసుకోవడం గ్రామంలోనివారికి చాలా సులభము. గ్రామాలలో ఎవరు త్రాగుబోతులూ వారికి తెలుసును. అటువంటి కొద్దిమందిని వారు అదుపులో పెట్టటానికి చాలా వీలుంటుంది. కాబట్టి పంచాయతీవారికే ఈ మధ్యపాన నిషేధాన్ని అమలుజరిపి నేరస్తులను తగినవిధంగా శిక్షించే అధికారాలను దఖలుపరచ వలసినదని కోరుతున్నాను.

“కొంతమంది గౌరవనీయులు మధ్యపాన నిషేధంవలన చాలా నష్టంవస్తోందని, ఈ సంస్కరణవలన ప్రజలకు నిజంగా లాభంకలుగుతోందో లేదో నని వారు సందేహం వెలిబుచ్చినారు. అటువంటి సందేహాలకు తావులేదు. నేను గ్రామాలలో నివసించే వాడిని. ఈనాడు ఇదివరలోవలె కలహాలలేవు మధ్యపాననిషేధం లేనప్పుడు రాత్రి ఎగ్జిమిడింగులవలన, కార్మికులు ముఖ్యంగా హరిజనులు నివసించేటటువంటి ప్రాంతాల లోనికి కనుక వెళ్లి చూచినట్లయితే ఎక్కడచూచిన కొట్లాటలు, విమర్శలు కనిపిస్తూ ఉండేవి. కాని ఈనాడు అటువంటి దారుణకృత్యాలు జరుగటంలేదు. రాత్రి 8 ఘంటలతరువాత ఇప్పుడు హరిజనవాడలకురోలే అతినిర్మలంగా నిశ్శబ్దంగా ఉంటున్నాయి. అడవాళ్ళు, మొగవాళ్ళు, పిల్లలుకూడా సుఖంగా కాలక్షేపం చేస్తున్నారనే విషయంలో విమోచనం సందేహంలేదు. కాని కొందరు త్రాగుబోతులు ఇంకను ఎక్కడో గ్రామాలకు దూరంగా ఉన్నచోట దొంగతనంగా సారాయి తయారుచేస్తున్నారని అందరకు తెలిసినవిషయమే. దీనికి ముఖ్యకారణము ఈ నేరస్తులను సకాలంలో శిక్షించడం కష్టంగావున్నందువల్లనేనని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. మా జిల్లాలో ఇప్పుడు మధ్య పాన నిషేధాన్ని ఇదివరకటి Excise department వారే పడుపుతున్నారు. వీరికి ఆయుధాలు, ఇతర సౌకర్యాలులేని కారణంచేత దొంగసారాయిని తయారుచేయడం పూర్తిగా అరికట్టలేక పోతున్నారు. ఈ department ను కూడా పోలీసువాచేతు ల్లో ఉంచినట్లయితే జయప్రదంగా కొనసాటానికి ఎంతో అవకాశముంటుంది. పోలీసుంటే ఈ నేరస్తులకు భయముంటుంది. ఇదివరకటి Excise department వారు ఎటువంటివారో ఈ నేరస్తులకు బాగుగా తెలుసును. వారు విమోచయలేరని తెలుసును. అందుకనే ఆ నేరాలు తగ్గుతుంటేదు. మధ్యపానపు కేసులక్రింద శిక్షింప బడినవారివద్దనుంచి మా జిల్లానుంచి నెలకు సుమారు 1,800 గుళాయలు వస్తూలు అవుతున్నదని ఒకసారి ఆరికమర్చిగారు శలవిచ్చిఉన్నారు. ఇదే చాలా విచారకర మైనటువంటి విషయంకాబట్టి ప్రతి పని గ్రామాలకు ఒక చిన్న పోలీసుస్టేషన్ ను ఏర్పాటుచేసి, ఆ పోలీసులే మధ్యపాన నిషేధాన్ని కూడా అమలు చేయవలెనని ఉత్తర్వులు ఇచ్చినట్లయితే ఈ సంస్కరణ ఎంతో జయప్రదముగా ఉండటానికి అవకాశములు

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గలవని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. అంతేకాకుండా జరిమానాలు వేసినంతమాత్రం చేత మధ్య పానం చేయడం మాన్పడం కష్టం. ప్రజలలో వైతికంగా మార్పు వచ్చినాడే ఇది సాధ్య పడుతుంది. మధ్యపానంవలన కలిగేటటువంటి అనర్థాలేమా ప్రజలకు తెలియజేస్తూ ఉండాలి. ఇందుకుగాను ఈ శాఖతరపున పనిచేస్తున్న ప్రచార శాఖవారు ఎక్కువగా శ్రద్ధ తీసుకోవాలి. ఈ మధ్యన తాటిబెల్లం తయారు చేయుటకుగాను కొంతమంది లైసెన్సులు తీసుకొన్నవారు, దొంగతనంగా కల్లు తాగటానికి అవకాశాలు కల్పిస్తున్నారని ప్రజలు అనుకుంటున్నారు. ఈ లోటుపాట్లను సమరించటానికి ప్రభుత్వంవారు హెచ్చుశ్రద్ధ తీసుకోవాలి. ఎవరికి లైసెన్సు లిస్తే ఇటువంటి శాసన ధిక్కారం జరుగదో చక్కగా పరిశీలించి అటువంటివారికి లైసెన్సులు ఇవ్వాలి. బెల్లము చేస్తామని కల్లు అమ్మేవారు పెద్ద నేరస్తులుగా భావించి పట్టించాలి.

“గ్రామములలోని రైతులకు వ్యవసాయశాఖ ఎంకో ఉపయోగ పడవలసియున్నది కాని, ఈనాడు రైతు వ్యవసాయ శాఖవారియొక్క పూర్తి సహాయాన్ని పొందలేకుండా ఉన్నాడు. ఈ వ్యవసాయ శాఖలో పని చేస్తున్న డిమాండ్స్టేబురు మొదలైనవారు ఎరువులు అమ్మేటటువంటి వర్తకులుగానే మునాడు ఉండవలసి వస్తోంది. వ్యవసాయదారులకు వారు ఎక్కువ శాస్త్రజ్ఞానము కలిగించటానికి ఎక్కువ time ఉండడం లేదు. రోజులో చాలాభాగము ఎరువులు అమ్మకోటానికి వారు డిమాండ్లో ఉండివలసి వస్తోంది. గ్రామాలలో పర్యటించేసి వారికి ఉన్న శాస్త్ర పరిజ్ఞానాన్ని రైతులకు తెలియజేయుటవంటి ఈ ఉద్యోగస్తులు వర్తకులుగా పనిచేయడం మాని వేయాలి. ప్రతి తాలూకాలోను ఆ తాలూకా డిమాండ్స్టేబురు కొద్దిపాటి ధూమిని తన స్వంత పర్యవేక్షణక్రింద వ్యవసాయముచేయించి, ఆ demonstration plot లో అనేక experiment ని చేసి వాటి ఫలితములను రైతులకు కనుక ఎప్పటికప్పుడు తెలియజేస్తూఉంటే రైతులకు చాల ఉపకారంగాఉంటుంది కాబట్టి ఈవ్యవసాయశాఖవారి నుంచి trading scheme లను వెంటనే తొలగించవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను.

“అహారసమస్య ఎంత ప్రాముఖ్యమైనటువంటిదో, ప్రజలకు మంచిపాటు supply చేయించే విషయముకూడా అంత ప్రాముఖ్యమైనటువంటిది. ఈనాడు దేశంలో పసి పిల్లలకు కూడా మంచిపాటు దొరుకుటలేదు. ప్రజలు పాను ఒకటికి రూ 8-8-0 లు వరకు ఖర్చుచేసి cow and gate మొదలైనటువంటి పాలపీండిని కొనుక్కోవ సేవస్తుంది. ఇటువంటి పదార్థాలను కొనుక్కుకే మనకు అనేక లక్షల విలువ కలిగినటువంటి డాలర్లు కావాలంటున్నారు. కాబట్టి ప్రతి తాలూకాలోను ఒక పాలాభివృద్ధి సంస్థను ఏర్పాటు చేయాలి. వారికి సరైన అవకాశాలు కల్పించి మంచి పాలు ఉత్పత్తిచేసే మార్గాలను రైతులకు తెలిపుడు జేయాలి. పాల ఉత్పత్తి అధికముచేయించిన యెడల అహారసమస్య కొంతవరకు మనకు పరిష్కరించగలమని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“నల్ల మందుకు అలవాటుపడి ఉన్నవారికి ఈనాడు చాలా ఇబ్బందులు కలుగుచున్నవి. నల్లమందు ఉపయోగించుట దురభ్యాసముకాదని నేను చెప్పనుకాని, అటువంటిదానికి అలవాటుపడినవారియెడల ప్రభుత్వం దయదలచవలసియున్నదనిమాత్రం తెలియజేయుచున్నాను. నల్లమందుకు అలవాటు ఉడినవారు సాధారణంగా ముసలి వారు, బలహీనులు అయిఉంటారు. వారు నల్లమందు వాడకపోతే ఇంకా బలహీనులుగా అవుతారు. ఎక్కో భాదలు పడుతారు. అటువంటివారికి యిప్పుడు నల్లమందు తాలూకా ఆఫీసుల ద్వారా supply చేయదలచినామని ప్రభుత్వం వారు అన్నారు. ఈ విధానంవల్ల ఈ బలహీనులు 15 మైళ్లు, 20 మైళ్లుగడచి తాలూకా ఆఫీసుకు రావలసి వచ్చుచున్నది. ఏ 2, 3 రూపాయల విలువగల నల్లమందుకు, చాలా

[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [6th March 1950]

మారం నడచి ఎంకో ప్రయాసకు గురి అయి వస్తే వారిని తాలూకా ఆఫీసువారు, 3 రోజులు, 4 రోజులు, అక్కడ ఈ నల్లమందు కొరకు వచ్చినవారు ఉండిపోవలసి సట్లుగా చేస్తున్నారు. కాబట్టి ఇది స్వల్ప విషయమని భావించక గ్రామాలలో నల్ల మందు అమ్మబడేటట్లు చేయగోరొస్తాను. ఈ ముసలివారు నల్లమందు దొరకక కాంగ్రెస్ ప్రభుత్వమును శపిస్తున్నారు. ఇతరుల శాపాలకన్న ఈ నల్లమందు శాపము కాంగ్రెస్ వారిమీద గట్టిగా పనిచేస్తుందని నాభయము కాబట్టి నల్లమందు పట్టెటూళ్లలో ఆ మే విర్పాలులు చేయవలసినదని మరిల ప్రభుత్వం వారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“ఈనాడు గ్రామాలకు ప్రయాణము చేయడం కష్టముగా ఉన్నది. వర్షాకాల ములో పట్టెటూళ్లకు వెళ్లాలంటే సర్క్యూలేషన్ చేసేవారు లీగమీద నడచేటట్లుగా నడచి వెళ్లగలసి వచ్చింది. విద్యార్థులు కాలుతప్పిపడినా పడిపోవలసిన పరిస్థితులలో ఉన్నది. పట్టెటూళ్లలో రోడ్డువేణుకు అనేకలక్షల రూపాయలు ఖర్చుచేస్తున్నారు. పట్టెటూళ్లలో సిమెంటురోడ్లు, తారురోడ్లు, ఇతర సౌకర్యాలు కలుగజేయబడుతున్నాయి. పట్టెటూళ్లలో ఈ సౌకర్యాలు కలుగజేస్తున్నారని నాకేమి భాధగాలేదు. కాని పట్టెటూళ్లకు ఆధము 4, 5 కోట్ల రూపాయలు వెచ్చించి పట్టిరోడ్లను నడుపు వేయించ గోరొస్తాను. విద్యార్థుల విద్య పనిమీద పట్టెటూళ్లలోంచి అక్కడఉండే పెద్ద పెద్ద రోడ్లు నూచి, ప్రభుత్వంవారు అనేకలక్షల రూపాయలు పట్టెటూళ్లకు ఖర్చు చేస్తున్నారు, గ్రామాలకు మట్టిరోడ్లనయినా వేయటంలేదని చాలా అసంతృప్తి చెందుతున్నాడు. మాజాటివాళ్లం ఎక్కడైనా గ్రామాలకుపోతే, అక్కడి ప్రజలు, గ్రామస్తులకు ఎక్కువ సౌకర్యాలు కలుగజేస్తామని చెప్పిన కాంగ్రెస్ వారు ఏమీ చేయలేక పోయినారే అని అడుగుతున్నారు. వారికి విమర్శనాదానము చెప్పాలో కూడా తెలియడంలేదు. కాబట్టి రిజర్వు ఫండులోనుంచి ఆయనను ఆయిదుకోట్ల రూపాయలు తీసుకొని అన్ని గ్రామాలలోను మట్టి రోడ్లయినా వేయించవలసినదని ఆర్థికశాఖామంత్రిని కోరుతున్నాను.

“మళ్ళీగా కాంగ్రెస్ వారు ప్రభుత్వము లోనికి వచ్చిన ఈ 4 సంవత్సరాల లోను గ్రామాలకు ఏ విధమైన శ్రద్ధ లేనుకొన్నామా పరిశీలించుకోవడం వలచింది. గ్రామస్తులకు కావలసిన చిన్న చిన్న సౌకర్యాలు మనము విమర్శము చేయలేక పోయినాము. రైతులకు కావలసిన వ్యవసాయ పరికరాలుకూడా వారికి ఇప్పించలేక పోతున్నామని చెప్పటకు విచారించుచున్నాను. వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు సరఫరా విషయమై నేను అనేకసార్లు ప్రభుత్వంవారిని ప్రశ్నించాను. కొన్ని సందర్భాలలో మంత్రులు ఆయా జిల్లాలోవుండే ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగిలు కొరలేదని, అందుచేత వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లు సరఫరాచేయలేదని చెప్పియున్నారు. జిల్లాలకువెళ్లి ఆ ఉద్యోగిలను అడిగినప్పుడు వారు మేము వ్యవసాయ పనిముట్లకు వైఆర్ కెసారులకు వ్రాసినామని కాని ఏ కారణం చేతనో అవి సప్లయ చేయబడలేదని చెబుతున్నారు. ఈ నాడు మంత్రులుగా ఉన్నవారిలో చాలామంది మొట్టమొదటి పట్టెటూళ్లకు చెందినవారే. కాని, వారు మంత్రులై ఈ మహా పట్టెటూళ్ల ఉంటున్న కారణంచేతనో మరొక కారణం చేతనో పట్టెటూళ్లను మరచి పోయినారేమో నని నాకు. ఇతర గ్రామస్తులకు కూడా అనుమానము కలుగుతోంది. కాంగ్రెస్ వారు ఎప్పుడూగడ గ్రామాను మరచిపోరని నా నమ్మకము. ఈ విషయాన్నే మన నాయకుడగు మహాత్ముడు అనేకసార్లు చెప్పియున్నారు. మహాత్మునియొక్క ఆశయా లే మనకు మళ్ళీ అడర్పాలి. ఆ విధానాలను అనుసరించి నట్లయితే మనము ప్రజా సామాన్యాన్ని ఆర్థికంగాను, సాంఘికంగాను, నైతికంగాను కూడా అభివృద్ధి పరచగలమని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ప్రజలకు కావలసిన ఆహారం వస్త్రం

6th March 1950] [Sri M. Narayana Rao]

వారికి సరస్వతీ సరస్వతి దొరికితే చాలా చాలా ప్రయోజనం వస్తుంది. ఈ ముఖ్య అవసరాలను ఇకముందు ప్రజలకు సులభంగా దొరికితే చాలా మంది అయిపోతే విధానం ఏదైనా మనము ప్రజలయొక్క ఆదరాన్ని, అభిమానాన్ని, సహకారాన్ని పొందగలము మనవి చేస్తున్నాను."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—"The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 11 a.m. tomorrow."

The House then adjourned.

VIII.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE.

G.O. No. 192, L.A., dated 24th January 1950, ordering the stay of elections to the Panchayat Board, Sevrur (Coimbatore).





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